



# MUSCOGEE NATION News

Official Publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

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May 2006

## Inside May's Issue

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**Chief says Oklahoma Governor approves new tobacco compact**

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**Housing program addresses inquiries**

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### SCENE - SECTION C



**All the information you need for a great time at the Muscogee Nation Festival being held in June. Don't miss this great event! See Section C for Details.**

### THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

**Principal Chief, along with Tribal Administration will be conducting a Town Hall Meeting at the Koweta Indian Community Center on May 25th at 6:30 p.m. This has been a very important part of the Chief's mission, to bring tribal government and services to the people. For more information contact, Rachal Sumka (918) 732-7604.**



*Pictured, from left to right, are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, Lt. Governor Chickasaw Nation Jefferson Keel, Seminole Nation Chief Kelly Haley, Seminole Nation Assistant Chief Larry Harrison, and Cherokee Nation Chief Chad Smith.*

Photo by Ruth Bible

## 100 years later, Tribes still in full force and effect

By Jason Salsman  
MNN Staff Writer

TULSA - On April 26, leaders representing each of the Five Civilized Tribes gathered on the grounds of the historic Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council Oak Park to commemorate the Five Civilized Tribes Act of 1906, an act that was a precursor to Oklahoma's statehood and reinforced the continuance of the tribal governments and said they were to continue in "full force and effect."

On this day, 100 years after the Act was put in place, the tribal leaders stood just as firm and strong as the massive oak that was behind them. They were there to remind Oklahoma, on the eve of its Centennial celebration that our sovereign nations are still here and are not a liability to the state but an asset.

"Just like the Council Oak that is alive and well today, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is alive and well in the City of

Tulsa and in the State of Oklahoma," said Creek Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

Seminole Pricipal Chief Kelly Haney backed Chief Ellis' remarks of pride in continued tribal production. "When you take a look at what goes into our state, there should not be one Indian who ever puts their head down," said Haney. "This is a great day."

The state of Oklahoma no doubt benefits from strong Indian influence and input. Combined tribal enrollment in our state is estimated at 1,047,949. The annual budget revenues from the Five Tribes are estimated at \$656,000,000 brought into the state, and that is excluding the budgets from the Choctaw and Seminole tribes. There are 49.5 counties under tribal jurisdiction, with the tribes employing roughly 23,138 people.

The Five Tribes are not only still here in 2006, but after 100 years are clearly still in "full force and effect."

## Dream Keepers 2006 honors six Muscogee citizens

By Ruth Bible  
MNN Staff Writer

TULSA - Six Muscogee Creek citizens were honored at the Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission Dream Keepers 2006 9th Annual Awards Banquet held April 18,



*Pictured, from left to right, are Melvin Bevenue, Ramona Mason, Matthew Littlehead, Cherrah Ridge-Quiett, George Coser, and Norean Tiger.* Photo by Rita Williams

2006 at the OSU B.S. Roberts room.

The following is a list of the recipients and their awards: Melvin Bevenue received the Kenneth Anquoe Lifetime Achievement Award; Norean and the late Kelly Tiger of Holdenville received the Will Anquoe Humanitarian Award; Ramona Mason of Tulsa received the Rennard Strickland

graduates and college drop out studies.

Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission Tulsa County Appointees, along with others Creek citizens, involved in the organization include Carol Morris and David Battist of Tulsa Creek Indian Community and Monetta Trepp of the National Indian Monument Institute.

## State acknowledges tribal housing sovereignty

By Jason Salsman  
MNN Staff Writer

The hallowed halls of the Oklahoma State Capitol building were echoing with voices of Native pride, specifically Muscogee (Creek) pride. Tribal leaders gathered along with state officials and native lobbyists to witness Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry sign the dotted line on Oklahoma Senate Bill 1706. The bill, which has been vigorously worked through by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Oklahoma State Senator Frank Shurden, and Representative Ray Miller for the last three years, officially gives control of the Oklahoma State Housing Agency over to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority.

While being a groundbreaking and positive move for strengthening state and tribal relations, the bill also upheld tribal sovereignty. A fact not ignored by Chief Ellis. "The tribe doesn't want to be an enemy of the state, we want to be a partner," said Ellis. "By signing this bill, they (state) have shown that they want to as well, its great."

Governor Henry echoed the sentiments of Chief Ellis and stressed that his platform would always prioritize strong government to government relations. "Chief Ellis and I have formed a great friendship and have been working together in partnership to build a better state."



*Pictured, from left to right, are State Representative Lisa Billy, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, National Council Speaker George Tiger, and Governor Brad Henry*

Photo by Gerald Wofford

## Tribal Health System plans open house ceremony for newest clinic



Koweta Clinic

By Gerald Wofford  
MNN Staff Writer

COWETA - "A Dream Realized" is the tentative theme for the open house ceremony of the Koweta Health Facility scheduled for Thursday, June 15 at 10 a.m. in Coweta, Oklahoma. The facility, over fifty-eight thousand square feet, has been in the constructive stages since the Muscogee (Creek) Nation first broke ground on the land, located just east of the city of Coweta, in December of 2004.

Although a ceremony is in the planning stages, Del Nutter, Director and CEO of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health systems, says the medical facility will be in operation before then. "I would say the latter part of May we will start seeing patients," says Nutter, who at this point is also

preparing the furnishings and supplies for the clinic.

Hiring of staff is also one of Nutter's concerns. "About 75% of the staff has been hired and we are already training a number of them," said Nutter. "The training has been very detailed. You would be surprised at the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes."

Johnnie Greene, National Council representative for Wagoner, Rogers, and Mayes District, is part of the planning committee for the open house and looks forward to the potential of the clinic. "It's very exciting because we have a lot of Native Americans, not just our Creek people, who will be served," says Greene. "We have surrounding areas, like Wagoner and other small communities that won't have to travel great distances for services, so we're

excited.

Nutter agreed by saying they anticipate people being served from other areas like Sapulpa, Claremore and even Tahlequah.

The clinic will offer medical services in areas such as dental, radiology and x-ray, physical therapy, primary care, pediatrics, WIC, CHR, and diabetes. Pharmaceutical care will also be available.

Along with the open house ceremony, tentative plans are being made to provide shuttle trips from Okmulgee to Coweta on Friday, June 16, and Saturday, June 17 for anyone interested in touring the clinic. The open house ceremony is being planned in June to coincide with the Creek Nation Festival, June 15, 16 and 17.

For more information call (918) 756-4333.

Office of the Principal Chief

By: Chief A.D. Ellis



Chief A. D. Ellis

“Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself”

Greeting my friends. May this day find you all healthy and in good spirits. I visited Eufaula elderly nutrition center last week and visited with many old friends. I regret that I cannot visit as many locations as I did when I was second chief but different jobs have different demands. Tomorrow will be a historic occasion when we travel to Oklahoma City and the Governors office will sign Senate Bill 1706. With this action by the State government, we assume all assets of the Creek Nation Housing Authority of Oklahoma.

This amounts to over 43 million dollars that our Housing division will receive and is also a strong action of tribal sovereignty. This is a first for tribes in Oklahoma and maybe the nation.

Governor Henry also last week accepted our offer for the new Tobacco Compact. This is now being assembled by our legal team and we probably will be joined by the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. This compact and legislation must first be approved by our National Council before being signed by the Governor and myself.

I want to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to attend this years, 32nd Annual Creek Nation Festival. Tribal transit buses will be available

for the festival Friday and Saturday. Also, Tribal Transit buses will be available for the grand opening of the new Koweta Health Clinic, June 15.

Saturday, June 17, will be the second annual festival parade in downtown Okmulgee. Build your float or whatever and join the parade.

Also, don't forget to visit the totally remodeled front lobby and hall of honor at our tribal complex. We're very proud of our new look and hope you are as well.

When ground was broken for the new Koweta Clinic I wanted nothing to go wrong. I put together an oversight committee, chaired by Claude Sumner, our executive director. Mr. Sumner and his committee have really proved priceless for the great oversight and untold extra hours needed to complete this project three months before deadline. Everyone will be impressed and proud of this facility. A great job also for council members, Mike Berryhill, Johnnie Green and former council member Barbara Gillespie. Great things are happening everywhere in our nation and our total government is working together to achieve all ventures. May 25 is the date for our next Town Hall meeting at the Koweta community center at 6:30 p.m. All citizens are welcome to attend. This is another example of taking the government to the people.

Next California Creek meeting is August 5 & 6 in probably West Los Angeles. MVTO!

LEGAL NOTICES

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
APPLICANT: MARBET, LLC

RELIEF SOUGHT: POOLING

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE/4 OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA.

CAUSE CD NO. 200602940

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission enter an order pooling the interests and adjudicating the rights and equities of oil and gas owners in the Calvin, Senora, Earlsboro, Bartlesville, Savannah, Booch, Hartshorne, Upper Gilcrease, Lower Gilcrease, Wapanucka, Union Valley, Cromwell, Woodford, Misener, Hunton, Viola and Wilcox common sources of supply underlying the unit comprised of the SE/4 of Section 3, all in Township 7 North, Range 9 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma, and designating Applicant or some other owner of the right to drill as operator of the unit well.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief: That the Applicant or some other owner of the right to drill be designated Operator of the unit well. The Applicant may request at the hearing that the order provide that any owner electing an alternative to participation in the well drilled there under shall be deemed to have relinquished all of its working interest and right to drill in the unit and common sources of supply named herein as to such well and any wells drilled subsequent thereto. The Applicant may also request that the order to issue in this cause provide to the operator a period of one (1) year from the date of the order in which to commence operations for the drilling of the initial well proposed hereunder.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, First Floor, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m., on the 16th day of May, 2006, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER

RE: Tulsa District Representative's Rebuttal to Eli Grayson's November 30, 2005 e-mail that will be published verbatim in the next edition of the Muscogee Nation News.

First of all, the previous Business & Governmental Committee members, myself being one of them, by consensus, were in total agreement and approved the contents of this letter in December, 2005 in an official meeting. I feel that our tribal citizens should not be denied the opportunity to obtain knowledge that may prove beneficial in their decision making. Therefore, I am now conveying the letter in its entirety to you for your examination and judgment.

On Wednesday, November 30, 2005, an e-mail was sent to a California tribal citizen. Eli Grayson, the leader of a non-tribally sanctioned organization was the author of this correspondence. It contained unwarranted and erroneous information that lacked facts and was directed at both the Business and Governmental Committee, and the entire National Council. As a former committee member, we as a committee were dedicated to passing legislation that was in the best interests of the Creek Nation and its citizens. The committee was diligent and examined every piece of legislation carefully. After completing its study, the committee arrived at a decision whether to postpone, kill, table, or send a piece of legislation (bill) on to the full council for its consideration. However, one wonders if the e-mail was sent to all members of the California Muscogee Creek Association or to selected individuals only.

The Business and Governmental members took a sworn oath to be responsible and accountable to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Mr. Grayson took it upon himself to pass judgment on the members who served on that committee even though he has only been a tribal citizen for approximately five (5) years, if that. Legislation mandating that Mr. Grayson refrain from using the title of "MeKKo" has been adopted by the National Council. This sacred title is usually reserved for ceremonial ground and tribal town chiefs only. As a recently enrolled tribal citizen, he shows a total lack of knowledge and disrespect for what cultural and traditional values mean to our Creek people. In the recent National Council elections, Eli Grayson sent out e-mails condemning certain candidates he felt were not favorable to the administration and endorsed their opponents by employing innuendo tactics.

Eli states in his e-mail that the National Council passed legislation to break the Nevada Gold contract. He goes on further to say that Chief Ellis will veto it. First of all, we did not pass legislation in the manner he described.

The legislative action we took that night was to "kill" legislation that dealt with the management agreement portion of the Nevada Gold contract as we felt it was not in the best interests of the Nation. Besides that, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis cannot veto legislation that has been

lowing special relief: That the Applicant or some other owner of the right to drill be designated Operator of the unit well. The Applicant may request at the hearing that the order provide that any owner electing an alternative to participation in the well drilled there under shall be deemed to have relinquished all of its working interest and right to drill in the unit and common sources of supply named herein as to such well and any wells drilled subsequent thereto. The Applicant may also request that the order to issue in this cause provide to the operator a period of one (1) year from the date of the order in which to commence operations for the drilling of the initial well proposed hereunder.

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"killed" in the full committee of the National Council. The only legislation that the Principal Chief can veto is the Principal Chief's confidant and main advisor on the Nevada Gold project. What is his involvement and interest in making uneducated statements about a project he know very little, if any about? Does he have a financial stake in this project?

Mr. Grayson also referred to the Nation Council members as "freaks" and insinuated that the current and outgoing Council Members appeared to be receiving kickbacks and under the table payments. He also mentioned the chartered community casinos and smoke shops as being on the same level.

Also contained in the e-mail was an unfounded accusation that the National Council "oust-ed" Allen Harjo from his position as Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs. All we did was pass legislation expressing no confidence in his job performance.

Not satisfied with the bashing of our tribal government and its entities, he turned his attention toward one of our peers on the National Council, Rep. Tom Pickering, from the McIntosh District. He made some negative comments about the quality of the clothes that Mr. Pickering wears. Does he realize that many of our creek citizens dress casually? After all, it's not the clothes that make the man.

Eli Grayson conveyed in his e-mail that the National Council had received three (3) pay raises in one (1) year period. This is yet another of his ignorant, and uninformed statements.

National council executive session discussion may center on the Executive Branch, National Council, entities, or individuals. Mr. Grayson appears to be privy to this confidential information through an unidentified source. This committee has an utmost concern with sensitive information "leaking out" that is dispersed in our executive sessions. This confidential information is available only to the National Council members and invited individuals who are requested to remain in executive session. What is said in that room stays in that room! Somehow, someway, this information appears to be forwarded directly to Mr. Grayson who transmits it in his e-mails through his electronics network "well before the ink is

GIVEN that in the event this cause is uncontested, the Applicant, its Attorney, representatives, witnesses and other proponents of the Applicant may appear and conduct the hearing by telephone from the Tulsa office facility, 440 S. Houston, Suite 114, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action contact SCOTT RICHEY, MARBET, LLC, 3316 Woodsboro, Norman, OK 73072, Telephone: (405) 485-9710, and/or Gregory L. Mahaffey, Attorney, 300 N.E. 1st STREET, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104-4004, Telephone: (405) 236-0478.

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA  
JEFF CLOUD  
CHAIRMAN  
DENISE A. BODE  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
BOB ANTHONY  
COMMISSIONER  
DONE AND PERFORMED this 18th day of April, 2006.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

PEGGY MITCHELL  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

See **Legal**  
*Continued On Page B6*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

dry". This indicates to us there is an individual(s) somewhere within our tribal government structure who is divulging the contents of executive sessions that are being held by the National Council.

Unfortunately, this trend seemed to begin when National Council representatives visited California and met with the California Muscogee Creek Association members. It was stated the Association was in agreement that the Council should not renew the contract of Geoffrey Standingbear, National Council attorney. In no way, do we hold the members responsible for expressing their opinion on this issue. That is their prerogative. Could their decision have possible been influenced by information that was not factual in nature?

Beware! We would like to serve notice to all Muscogee (Creek) Nation chartered communities. Eli Grayson may suddenly appear at one of your community meetings to "rebel rouse" your members. In a way we feel sorry for this individual. Eli wants to belong so badly and have his hand in the day-to-day operations of our tribal government. To satisfy his ego, he should move to Oklahoma and run for elective office. Let him observe firsthand how our tribe functions on an everyday basis. This may influence him to cease and desist from hurling his e-mail projectiles toward our tribal citizens. Or perhaps he is sending these e-mails for therapeutic reason to offset the truth that he never will be a force in our tribal government. In the spirit of Christianity, we would hope Mr. Grayson is able to find an inner peace within himself to soothe his conscience. MVTO!

Ronald A. Clegghorn  
Tulsa District Representative  
National Council Muscogee (Creek) Nation

My name is Kirsten C. Kunkle, and I am voting member of the Nation. My ancestry includes my mother, Toni (Rowley) Kunkle, my grandfather, Richard Rowley, my great grandmother, Eloise Posey, and further back on the Posey line. I am an alumni of the voice performance department of Bowling Green State University

See **Letters**  
*Continued On Page B6*

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TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7637 or send e-mail to: [wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov).

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Greetings my fellow citizens. I don't know if you have heard that my office has moved; I am presently in the former office of the BIA superintendent's office near Realty. I had an open house last Friday and it was a great success. I want to thank all the volunteers who helped in preparing the food it was delicious. My office phone number has changed; it is now (918) 732-7619 and my personal FAX number is (918) 732-7623. My e-mail is still the same: [aberryhill@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:aberryhill@muscogeenation-nsn.gov). Also, I have two new staff members and they are Odette Freeman, secretary and David Dunson, Assistant to the Second Chief. As always, my door is always open and everyone is welcome to come by.

Odette has been with my office for about three weeks and David has been with me for about two weeks. Odette is presently seeking her bachelor's degree in Business Administration and David holds a degree in Marketing. David is already hard at work seeing to the needs of our citizens and is eager to assist all citizens who need my assistance.

Recently, I had communication with one of our citizens who had a complaint about one of the teacher's in a public school system. This teacher was a Spanish teacher. The complaint was that the teacher was making statements like; "It is my opinion that the land be taken from the Indians and given back to the white people!" David attended a meeting with the school, the parent and the teacher. It was discovered that the teacher in question was a former Mexican citizen and no background check was made. This teacher had no American History and was not knowledgeable about Native American History.

When the Creek Nation starts any program, we do drug tests and background verifications. Our teachers are required to hold a degree in some type of education. The courses are closely scrutinized to see that it complies with the State educational requirements as a course curriculum. We can't just get someone off the streets and make them a teacher. This teacher is not too much aware of their own history because the Creeks hold a very prominent place in the history of Mexico. We sent contingents of military forces to assist in the revolution they were having with Spain. As a result of our efforts, the Creeks were given a vast amount of land in Mexico and it still exists today.

As a matter of fact, Poncho Villa was a frequent visitor to Okmulgee. My grandfather went to Mexico and when he returned one of his cousins had given birth to a son and he was asked to give him a name. He named him Jefferson Diaz Berryhill. The name Diaz was the name of the revolutionary president of Mexico.

Last Saturday, May 6, 2006, I attended the Sequoyah Alumni meeting as a nominee for the President of the Alumni Association. Wanda Jones was the other nominee, but I was voted in as the new Sequoyah Alumni Association. The office of President is for four years. I'll be glad to hear from any alumni from Sequoyah. I graduated in 1965.

Most of you know that the Baptist have an association of churches call the Creek, Seminole and Wichita Baptist association. I've always wonder about the Wichita's as being a part of an association began by the Creeks. The following cleared up my question and it written by an anonymous author and is entitled "History of John McIntosh".

William McIntosh was the Chief of the Creek Nation in Alabama and Georgia.

In February 1725, at Indian Spring, Georgia, the Chief William McIntosh unwittingly signed a document with the white man which he understood to be an agreement granting them the right to live in the same country. In sad realization, he learned that he actually had signed a deed to the Indian lands, relinquishing their own privileges of inhabitation and therefore were informed they would have to vacate.

Angered and embittered, the tribesmen gathered in mob protest and surrounded the double log house. When he saw they were going to harm him, he locked himself inside the building and the panicked mob set fire to the building.

When McIntosh could no longer bear the heat, he came out on the porch with both hands up and they shot him down. He lay until the burning building collapsed on him.

He had two sons, Chillie and N. D. McIntosh; and Chillie could speak English. He became the tribal spokesman and interpreter.

Dissatisfaction was mounting among the Creeks with the conditions of their native home in 1827. A scouting party came west to explore the region in the northeastern part of what is now Oklahoma with the view of making it their future home.

They returned to Georgia with a favorable report of their finding. Where upon Chillie McIntosh led seven hundred thirty-three Creeks to come and settle in a region northeast of Muskogee which is now known as Ft. Gibson. This party went by boat on Arkansas river, landing about February, 1830. Chillie made his home near Fame, Oklahoma, where his five children were born, William, John, Luke, Maria and another sister who's name is unknown.

John McIntosh was born August 11, 1833. In the year of 1866, he was converted and baptized. Two years later, he was ordained as a Baptist minister.

A request was made by Texas Baptist Convention that a mission work be started with the



Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Wichita Tribe in western Oklahoma.

In the Muskogee Indian Association a request was made for someone to take the gospel to the Wichita Tribe.

After much prayer, John McIntosh volunteered to go to western Oklahoma.

John McIntosh's own words: For a long time I had the burning desire to preach the gospel to these wild tribes, yet, when the way was opened, I hesitated.

I began to count the cost of undertaking such a long journey from my home to the Wichita Tribe.

There were no roads. In fact, I did not know how far it was. I only knew they were somewhere on the western plains.

Besides, these were days of notorious outlaws and horse thieves.

After much prayer I was convinced that this was God's call, and summoning all the courage and faith I had, I determined to go and trust my Lord to give his blessing upon the effort.

I had heard much of the wild Indian's animosity toward the white people and feared my little bit of white blood might prejudice them against me. Also, I wore a citizen's clothing and my hair was short. With all this in mind, preparations were made for the trip.

A good horse was selected and my wife prepared my food supply, mainly dried beef, sofkey, blue dumplings and two canteens of water.

Early in July, 1874, I told my family good-bye and started on the hazardous journey of more than two hundred miles.

I passed the last settlement the second day. As I left the borders of the Chickasaw Nation, trackless plains lay before me.

The weather was very hot and dry and there was very little water for me and the horse.

On the evening of third day I encountered four outlaws, two white men and two negroes. They were driving a bunch of cattle which I was quite sure they had rustled. They admired my horse and talked about taking him along, but I told them who I was and my mission. The let me pass on.

The canteens of water had been exhausted. Both I and the horse were too tired to continue

See **Opinion**  
*Continued On Page A3*

## OKMULGEE - THE FOLLOWING CONSIST OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 21, 2006, EMERGENCY SESSION

### MARCH 21, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WAS: ROBERT JONES, OKMULGEE; KEEPER JOHNSON, OKMULGEE; AND LARRY BIBLE, TULSA;

SPEAKER GEORGE TIGER, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

#### IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-049, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO COVER EXPENSES INCURRED BY AND/OR PARTIALLY FUND THE 2006 16th ANNUAL TRAIL OF HOPE NATIVE AMERICAN AA SOBRIETY CONFERENCE THAT WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 24, 25 AND 26 IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA - SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN (\$1,000.00)

- KILLED ON THE FLOOR (22-0-0) TR 06-023, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 04-142 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING AND AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATING TEAM ON TOBACCO COMPACT ISSUES WITH THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA) TO REFLECT THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE TOBACCO NEGOTIATING TEAM - POSTPONED FEBRUARY 25, 2006 REGULAR SESSION.

## OKMULGEE - THE FOLLOWING CONSIST OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 31, 2006, EMERGENCY SESSION- MARCH 31, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED ARE: RON CLEGHORN AND BO JOHNSON.

ABSENT WERE: ROBERT JONES, OKMULGEE; KEEPER JOHNSON, OKMULGEE; BO JOHNSON, OKMULGEE; CHERRAH RIDGE QUIETT, TULSA; RON CLEGHORN, TULSA; PAULA WILLITS, TULSA;

SPEAKER GEORGE TIGER, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

#### IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (19-0-0) TR 06-010, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING MERRILL LYNCH AS THE UNDERWRITER OF BOND FINANCING FOR THE PERMANENT FINANCING AT THE NEW TULSA CASINO - Sponsor: George Tiger

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-0-0) NCA 06-051, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO PROJECT - Sponsor: Thomas Yahola (\$1,768,285.00)



*National Council Speaker George Tiger Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Chairman Daniel Jones Ponca Nation; Chief Kaye Rhoades Sac & Fox Nation; Chairman Wallace Coffey Comanche Nation.*

Photo by Rita Williams

# From the desk of the Speaker:

Hensci!

It's official!! Oklahoma Senate Bill 1706 received a resounding unanimous 98-0 vote in the Oklahoma Legislature. The legislation was signed by Governor Henry on May 4 making it law. This historic Indian Housing legislation allows the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be the first tribe to assume the liabilities and assets of the former Housing Authority.

On April 18 the Cherokee, Osage and Muscogee (Creek) Nation legislatures hosted the Second Tribal Summit in Oklahoma City. The summit has representation from 22 of the 39 Oklahoma tribes. It also afforded the opportunity for the tribes to acquaint themselves with the Oklahoma House of Representatives Native America Caucus. I was honored to serve as Moderator for this important Summit. Tribal leaders recognized the momentum of continuing such meetings by scheduling another summit on May 22

in Oklahoma City. Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, Comanche and Sac and Fox nations will co-host the next summit. The goal will be to implement a state wide tribal organization.

Soon, I will be naming a Tribal Ordinance Task Force to review and evaluate the Nation's ordinances. Some ordinances have outlived their effectiveness and need to be amended or repealed. The goal of the Task Force will be to report and make recommendations to the National Council of their findings. The National Council will begin addressing the recommendations of the Task Force beginning in November of this calendar year.

According to and following



*Speaker George Tiger*

Fife, Okmulgee District; Eddie LaGrone, Muskogee District; Thomas Yahola, Tukvptvce District; Tom Pickering, McIntosh District; Mike Flud, Chief of Staff; Bob Davis, Citizen and Patrick Moore,

District Judge.

While our Constitution has served us well for decades, on May 6, the Osage Nation held a signing ceremony of their new Constitution. I was honored to speak at this historic and momentous occasion in behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I encouraged our Osage relatives to always remember their forefathers who gave the ultimate sacrifice that allows their government to exist and continue moving forward.

The annual Creek Nation Festival is rapidly approaching and the Committee has been meeting to finalize plans. Each year our Festival seems to be getting bigger and better. It is always a special time when our tribal members come back to visit and fellowship. I commend the committee and recognize their hard work in planning this year's festival. I hope your plans will include being at our Festival.

Until next time, MVTO!

# NATIVE VOTE UNITED CAMPAIGN

*By Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer for Muscogee (Creek) National Council*

Its election time again and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is being visited with candidates running for office. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council office is becoming visible in this arena with the Native Vote United Campaign and materials. The first official voters information was at the Tribal Summit meeting hosted by the Cherokee-Osage-Creek Nation Tribal Legislatures. There was 23 tribes represented and many of them went back with posters, bumper stickers, buttons and brochures.

The National Congress of American Indians is combining their efforts nationwide for the national NATIVE VOTE 2006 campaign. The Native Vote structure will include the appointment of a statewide Native Vote coordinator for each targeted state. NCAI Legislative Assistant Cinda Hughes has been in contact with Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer for the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and will be working with her to coordinate the Eastern half of Oklahoma for the GOTV campaign.

The Native Vote United will be going to communities within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and most importantly to the Indian population



*Terry Cook, Secretary for the National Council Office supports Native Vote United Campaign.*

Photo by Rita Williams

at the grassroots level. Native Vote will be going to many Indian communities and functions, not only registering and encouraging voters to go to the polls but educating them on Indian issues that Tribes are facing today at the hands of our legislature. Native Vote United is a nonpartisan effort that supports American Indians to become better informed and active, participating in the voting process at the local, state and national level.

Not only is it important to vote, but its important to know who you are putting in office that when issues come up concerning tribes, our legislatures will be willing to know who we are, understand our sovereignty rights and are Indian friendly.

One of the main focuses will be targeting our youth. The Native Vote United is invited to be a part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Annual Youth Culture & Leadership camp on June 8th 2006 at the Tiger Mt. Ranch Resort in Henryetta, Okla. The Native Vote United will also be on the agenda for the Native American Youth Leadership Conference sponsored by the Oklahoma Employment Training Advisory Council in Connors, Oklahoma. For more information concerning Native Vote United and presentations at your communities, activities, reunions, fundraisers, etc., please contact Rita Williams at 918-758-1410 or 918-430-6583.

### THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT:

The Voting Rights Act, adopted initially in 1965 and extended in 1970, 1975 and 1982, is generally considered the most successful piece of civil rights legislation ever adopted by the United States Congress. The Act codifies and effectuates the 15th Amendment's permanent guarantee that, throughout the nation, no person shall be denied the right to vote on account of race or color. In addition, the Act contains several special provisions that impose even more stringent requirements in certain jurisdictions throughout the country.

The right to vote is arguably the most significant characteristic of American citizenship. Though not explicitly guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution, the right to vote has been declared fundamental by the U. S. Supreme Court since it "is preservative of other basic civil and political rights." But despite its significance the franchise has been denied to many groups throughout our nations history, including blacks, women and Indians. However, whereas

blacks were formally enfranchised with the 15th amendment (1870) and women with the 19th Amendment (1920), Indians cannot claim one defining historical moment when their right to vote was constitutionally secured. Rather, the struggle for Indian suffrage has been an extraordinarily prolonged, complex, and piecemeal process that has yet to be fully resolved.

### NATIVE AMERICAN: VOTERS INTIMIDATION:

Native Americans have recently stated that they continue to face obstacles to voting all across the country, saying that the Voting Rights Act must be upheld and not changed. Charon Asetoyer, a recent victim of voter intimidation based on her Native American heritage, compares her home in South Dakota to the South in the 1960's.

Tribe's worry that changes to the Voting Rights Act could affect their growing electoral clout, says the Associated Press. Native American has been highly influential in recent elections in South Dakota, Washington State, and Arizona.

Native Americans endorse the renewal of Voting Rights Act provisions because it protects them against strict voting laws that are increasingly appearing across the nation, such as Voter ID requirements in states like South Dakota, says the Associated Press. Many Native Americans who live on reservations do not have ID's and feel targeted by this law.

Section 5 is safeguarding the reintroduction of a Georgia provision to require Voter ID's after a previous proposal was blocked because of a judge who was influenced by a team of Justice Lawyers who found the Voter ID Law to be racially discriminatory, reported the Washington Post.

Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act "has been critical in protecting voter's rights across the country," says Debo Adegbile, associated director of litigation at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. "The preclearance stops discrimination before it happens, before jurisdictions can come up with new, ingenious methods of narrowing the franchise," Adegbile continues.

The Executive Director of the National Voting Rights Institute, Stuart Cornstock-Gay say, "To fight the new forms of discrimination, the full Voting Rights Act remains necessary. And it will take citizens from across the country contacting their legislators, writing letters to newspapers, and putting up a clarion call for a renewal of all portions of

the Voting Rights Act to ensure that voting rights in this country don't regress."

The National Congress of American Indians has always been on the forefront with the Native Vote across the States in Indian Country. One initiative they are working on will be the Election Protection. The Election Protection portion of the Native Vote program works on the legal aspects of the election, protecting our rights to vote, providing voter information, and monitoring the polls on Election Day. An example of one of the Election Protection projects is ensuring that all states that require identification to vote, accept Tribal ID's as a valid form of identification.

The Native Vote is critical in all states this year NCAI is placing particular emphasis on Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin.

# NEWS IN INDIAN COUNTRY:

*By Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer for Muscogee (Creek) National Council*

Johnson O'Malley funds restored during the House subcommittee on Interior appropriation markup

On May 4, House Subcommittee on appropriations for the Interior and Related Agencies Markup; Johnson O'Malley program funding was restored to the level of \$16.4 million for fiscal year 2007. In February 2006, the President proposed to eliminate the now restored Johnson O' Malley funding in his budget request to Congress.

Since the budget request release, NIEA had worked to make both the Senate and the House of Representatives aware of the beneficial and much needed services the JOM funding is able to provide. Testifying before both the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, NIEA demonstrated how JOM funding is used to provide vital programs designed to build self-esteem, confidence, and cultural awareness so that Indian students can grow up to become productive citizens within their communities.

# New Tradition Clinic offers help to neuropathy sufferers

New Tradition Clinic is a unique clinic in Tulsa serving diabetic patients with foot problems and is owned and staffed by all women. Mariah Lee, the owner is a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen and she started this clinic in November. The Doctor at the clinic is Dr. Lois Beard, who used to be the Diabetic Coordinator for the Diabetes Program at the Okmulgee Clinic from 1999 to 2005.

Diabetes can generally be maintained through diet and exercise however, when diabetes becomes more intense other measures need to be implemented. Untreated diabetes can cause many terrible things to happen. Problems range from a lack of feeling in the extremities (neuropathy) to vision and kidney problems. The neuropathy can lead to an injury developing into a wound. This is where the New Tradition Clinic comes

into the picture.

The therapy the clinic uses is a non-invasive, cost effective treatment program that will prevent / reverse even the worst case of restricted circulation in the extremities due to diabetes. It is NeuroCare. This is a small electrical muscle stimulator which has a higher output than any other electrical stimulator on the market today. Where other units invoke the active muscle fibers at a maximum of 150 volts the NeuroCare 1000 can invoke the inactive muscle fibers at a maximum of 440 volts. However, Amperage, which is the painful part of electricity, runs at 90 milliamps in other EMS units the NeuroCare runs at only 4 milliamps of current. With this low amps the patient can tolerate the 440 volts which achieves the remarkable healing which comes at this voltage. It

can increase local circulation, relax muscle spasms, maintain or increase range of motion, re-educate muscle, prevent or retard disuse atrophy, and help with immediate post-surgical stimulation of calf muscles to prevent venous thrombosis. The increase of local circulation helps non-healing wounds to granulate and heal and prevent amputations. The treatment is 45 minutes long and the plan of care is prescribed by the doctor.

The clinic serves local nursing homes in the Tulsa area. The treatment is also wonderful for incontinent patients. The treatment can prevent problems with a once a month treatment and can be the difference between keeping and losing a foot.

For more information please call 918-439-9060 or visit the clinic at 2121 S. 125th E. Avenue Suite, 107, Tulsa, Ok. 74129.

## Request for Muscogee Business information

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is accepting information on Muscogee owned and / or operated businesses and Muscogee business owners. If you, or someone you know, owns or operates a business and is a

Muscogee Citizen write in and let us know about them and let us let everyone else know about them as well. It doesn't matter if their business is a multinational corporation or doing bead work and selling it out of their house, all Muscogee owned or operated businesses are applicable.

Information on businesses will be ran as space permits and on a first come first served basis. Pictures will be ran as space permits.

Please send information to: Muscogee Creek Nation Communications Department, ICO: Joshua Slane, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447.

# Claudette Robertson M.A. Writer and Consultant

OKLAHOMA CITY — Claudette Robertson is available as a writer, editor, and/or consultant for ministry, business, historical organizations, and nonprofit programs.

She has a master in Social Sciences from Humboldt State University in northern California with an emphasis in American Indian History. During her time at Humboldt she developed her

own masters program which included going out and teaching history at the college of the Red Woods.

She has since worked for the Hoopa Valley Tribe writing grants for HUD, Social Services, and several other departments. She is also one of the three founders, and worked as the administrator of, the Muscogee Language Institute along with

George Bunny and Ted Isham.

She now lives in Oklahoma City, attends Oklahoma State University and is working on her doctorate in history and teaches at Oklahoma City Community College.

She has been writing grants since 1986.

To contact Robertson, call 405-773-1384 or 405-826-2424.



# NATIVE NEWS TODAY

## Check Us Out on Cox Cable Channel 3 Each Saturday at 11 a.m.

**CALL 918-438-6548 FOR INFORMATION**

# Native American Attorneys: Small in Number, Not in Influence

By Patrick Folliard

Originally published by the Minority Corporate Council Association in Diversity and the Bar.

When leaders in law discuss ways to springboard success for diverse attorneys, usually the needs of women, African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Pacific Americans, and gays and lesbians are brought to the table. Although the legal profession has made some progress in increasing the number of women and minority attorneys in higher levels of law, there is one ethnic group who has not yet shared in that accomplishment: Native Americans. While Native Americans are one of the smallest ethnic groups in the nation today—making up a little less than one percent of the total population, according to 2004 estimated numbers from the U.S. Census Bureau — their representation in law is infinitesimal. In a recent article, the American Bar Association ascertained that of the one million lawyers in the United States, only 3.9 percent are African American, 3.3 percent are Latino, 3.9 percent are Asian American, while just 0.3 percent are American Indian.

“When people talk about diversity, Native Americans are mostly overlooked because our numbers are so small. It seems as if we aren’t even on the radar screen. The term I use for us is ‘the invisible minority,’” says Denette Mouser, assistant general counsel at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and a board member of the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA).

“Ordinarily, African Americans, Asian Pacific Americans, and Hispanics come to mind, but unfortunately we don’t hear much about Indians. Many times people just don’t ‘see’ Native Americans in their midst. Some of that has to do with the blood quantum required to be Native American—it’s very fractionalized. Because of that fractionalized blood quantum, the way many Native Americans look isn’t in keeping with the public’s expectation,” says Mouser.

What are the factors that keep Native Americans out of the legal profession, and what can leaders in diversity and law do to help? Mouser and several other Native American attorneys shared their personal and professional experiences to shed light on the roadblocks that aspiring Native American lawyers may face and how those barriers may be overcome.

“For me, one answer is pipelining Native American students. I’m a big proponent,” says Mouser, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who also has Cherokee heritage. “Currently the focus often is only to make sure students finish high school, and later we can work on college and post-graduate degrees, where the numbers are very low. I hope to see that focus moving toward improving the number of Native American students in post-graduate programs in future generations.”

Further statistics bolster Mouser’s continuing enthusiasm. According to the American Bar Association, the number of full-time Native American law students almost doubled from a lackluster 554 from 1990 through 1991 to 1,048 from 2004 through 2005. Although these numbers have doubled, in comparison to other minority groups and the majority, they are unquestionably low.

Before joining Wal-Mart’s employment litigation group, Mouser was a trial attorney at Godwin Gruber, LLP (now known as Godwin Pappas Langley Ronquillo, LLP) and at Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP, both in Dallas. As a student at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, she assumed that she would come out and find work as the in-house counsel of an oil and gas company (a field in which she was acquainted previously as an executive secretary), but the adrenaline rush of the moot court experience led her elsewhere. One of those other places was the Supreme Court of her tribe, where Mouser finds time to sit as a Justice.

Tribes are sovereign entities and make their own laws. Of the over 560 federally recognized tribes, about 275 have their own courts. According to Mouser, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation the judicial branch is populated by a

District Court that hears all matter of cases of family law, misdemeanor criminal law, and general civil law, and the Supreme Court, which hears all appeals and retains original jurisdiction for the tribe’s constitutional disputes. An attorney must be admitted to the Muscogee Nation Bar to practice in their courts—although some tribes require only a lay advocate license.

“Sitting on the Court is an honor,” says Mouser. “It offers an opportunity to serve my tribe, and another way to keep my Indian heritage alive in my life.”

Native American attorneys are usually the first in their family to attend college. Often they receive stipends from their tribes to help with educational costs. However, the amounts vary significantly depending upon the wealth of the tribe. Throughout their careers, many serve as an interface between Indian culture and corporate America or the federal government.

When speaking to groups of young students, Barry Brandon, senior vice president and general counsel of Seneca Gaming Corporation, repeats the same story. He explains to these students that for him, becoming a lawyer was a search to discover his own identity.

Early on, as an enrolled member of the Oklahoma-based Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Brandon wanted to understand his place in society and his unique relationship to the federal government. Even as a boy growing up in Oklahoma and later in a suburb of Seattle, Wash., Brandon was aware of being different from his friends.

“Looking at my dark skin and almond eyes, kids asked: ‘What are you? Are you Mexican? Japanese?,”’ remembers Brandon. “From a young age, that prompted me to ask a lot of questions about my background. Coupled with a close relationship with my Creek grandmother, it made me curious about what it meant to be an Indian.”

Throughout his childhood, Brandon’s grandmother recounted stories of the injustices committed against Creek Indians earlier in the 20th century. When she was a girl, she was extracted from her parent’s home and placed in a state-run boarding school, where she was forcibly assimilated into a strict brand of white culture and punished for speaking in her native tongue. Essentially, she was taught not to be a Native American.

After learning he was accepted to law school at the University of Washington in Seattle, Wash., the first person Brandon called was his grandmother. Her first words were: “Get my land back.” She was speaking for many tribes when she asked her grandson to use his degree to benefit Native Americans, and according to Brandon, her words shaped his entire career.

In his first month as a young attorney at the Department of Justice in 1994, Brandon won a case that involved returning land belonging to the Seneca Nation of Indians in Salamanca, N.Y. He was so successful that the clan mother of the Bear Clan of the Seneca Nation adopted him. Coincidentally, the grandfather Brandon never knew was a full-blood Seneca.

Prior to getting on board with Seneca Gaming Corporation, Brandon was a partner at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP in Washington, DC, where he maintained a national practice representing tribes on gaming, land, and water rights, as well as some lobbying. He initially went to the firm with the idea of assisting with an Indian practice.

For Brandon, working with tribes has been very gratifying, and, according to him, tribal members have been pleased as well: “Imagine, tribal members—who for many years have been used to seeing non-Indian attorneys come to represent them, and perhaps feeling some skepticism to what their true motivations were—actually seeing another brown face who is also a tribal member enrolled in a federally recognized tribe coming to assist them with legal matters. It has proved very meaningful.”

“There are not many degrees of separation in the legal community. The circle is small,” says Brandon. “My Indian blood lent to my credibility, and a trust factor evolved, allowing for tribal leadership to feel comfortable with discussing certain things with me and taking my legal

recommendations. My coming to the Seneca Nation is the result of that and hard work.”

Seneca Gaming Corporation is the parent corporation to three subsidiary corporations, each of which is authorized by tribal charter as individual casinos in New York State. The casinos in Niagara Falls and Salamanca are currently operational, and recently in Buffalo, ground was broken on a third. The tribe’s 7,400 members wholly own the corporation.

“Seneca Gaming came out of a compact that the tribe negotiated with the state of New York, which is the usual threshold requirement of tribes that want to game,” Brandon explains. “It’s required that tribal leadership sit down with the state where they reside and reach an agreement as to the scope of gaming, regulatory functions, and licensing issues. What made our compact extremely unique is that the Seneca Nation of Indians not only negotiated for a casino to be built on reservation land, but they also negotiated to go off the reservation and open casinos on what once were indigenous lands. We’re permitted by federal law to build and operate casinos on those territories. This has never been done before.”

Over the last five years, Brandon has moved from the compact to actually building and operating casinos—starting as an outside attorney and then in-house as general counsel for the last year and a half. At the time of this interview, Seneca Nation Gaming was just days away from opening a 605-room luxury hotel and more restaurants to complement the casinos in Niagara Falls. According to Brandon, the corporation employs over 4,000 people, and if it were possible to sell the corporation on the open market, it would be worth well in excess of one billion dollars.

As general counsel, Brandon has the same responsibilities of any general counsel at a comparably sized company. He provides legal advice to senior management and the board of directors—who are all Seneca Nation citizens—on a wide range of issues, including litigation, labor, and human resources. All company contracts route their way through the general counsel’s office as well.

Brandon confirms that on paper, the fortunes of the Seneca Nation of Indians have risen dramatically. At this time, the nation has decided to reinvest in itself; if done wisely, the future is more than promising.

“As I’ve gone through law school and practiced law, my grandmother’s words have come to mean so much more to me,” says Brandon. “To some extent, I’ve come to understand exactly how profound they were.”

“Working for tribes motivates people to go to law school, particularly if you want to help other Indian people get ahead,” says Kathleen Supernaw, in-house counsel of the Osage Nation. “I worked for Indian tribes for 15 years before going to law school [at the University of Oklahoma]. Gradually I had become interested in case law, Indian law, and federal regulations, and thought a law degree would be helpful. I tell you, law school is not something I had in mind since kindergarten.”

With a broad background in Indian affairs and knowledge of administrative processes, Supernaw is the perfect fit to assist with the day-to-day business operations of the Osage Nation, for whom, like most tribes, the workings of the federal government is a mystery. As in-house counsel, Supernaw advises the Chief and Tribal Council as well as the tribal program directors who are in need of varying legal advice. She is generous with her time and services, because the tribe is exercising its sovereignty and is in particular need of someone with a grasp of tribal business.

When not assisting the Osage Nation, Supernaw is director of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s legal program at the University of Tulsa College of Law. A Muscogee (Creek) citizen, Supernaw takes pride in her tribe’s funding of a student-staffed legal clinic that provides legal services to Creeks, primarily in tribal court.

“Ever since I was in law school, I’ve tried to be a mentor,” says Supernaw. “I’ll help in any way I can. Every time another Native American pursues higher education, I’m encouraged.”

Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps

The Community Diabetes Prevention program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will offer four different three day summer youth camps that stress healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention. The first two days will include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, and fun. The last day will be a field trip to Big Splash in Tulsa, Ok. These camps will be for any American Indian youth, 10-15 years of age and live within the Creek Nation boundary. Each camp will take the first 35 youth to sign up. Okemah Youth Camp will be held July 17 through 19. To register for the Okemah Youth Camp call (800)-219-9458, extension 456. Okmulgee Youth Camp will be held July 24 through 26. To register for the Okmulgee Youth

Camp call (918)756-9911, extension 255. Eufaula Youth Camp will be held July 31 through August 2. To register for the Eufaula Youth Camp call (918)689-2540, extension 254. Sapulpa Youth Camp will be held August 7 through 9. To register for the Sapulpa Youth Camp call (918)224-9310, extension 242.

National Council Act assists citizens with diabetes and increased foot risks

OKMULGEE - National Council Act 06-029 provides \$648,689.40 to address the needs of Creek citizens that have diabetes and increased foot risks. Creek citizens living within the MCN jurisdictional boundaries are eligible to benefit from these funds.



National Council Representative, Keeper Johnson

Mr. Keeper Johnson, Okmulgee National Council Representative, sponsored this foot care legislation that was approved by the full Council on March 31, 2006. Mr. Johnson had found out that shoes were not available through Diabetes Grant funds for individuals who have loss of protective sensation only. He included shoes for these persons in his proposal. Shoes and inserts will be available for persons with higher risks. Prosthetics will be much easier to obtain for those who have amputations.

The OSU Pedorthic, Orthotic and Prosthetic Clinic will be the main provider for the lower limb and foot care supplies. The OSU clinic began their service this year and plans to provide a wide range of types and sizes of shoes and prosthetics. American Indians who are not Creek will continue to use American Foot Care Inc. to provide their shoes and inserts. Creeks may use either of these resources to obtain these services. Other resources that may be used as third and fourth options are the Vocational Rehab and Emergency Medical Assistance Programs.

Establishment of a wound care service within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is

also being considered. Space, highly trained wound-care specialists and the coordination of these services with current preventive and treatment services will be needed. According to the RPMS data management system of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MCNHS) there were approximately 3000 persons identified as having diabetes who received care in one of MCNHS

clinics in the past 3 years. Persons with diabetes are at risk for several significantly debilitating complications. One of these complications is amputation of the lower limb. The RPMS data identified ten American Indians having diabetes within the MCN jurisdiction who have had major amputations in each of the last 2 years. This rate of 3.3/1000 compares similarly to national surveillance data of 3.2 in 2002.1 The goal for Healthy People 2010 is 1.8/1000.

Mr. Johnson proposed that the Tribe provide 51% of the estimated costs listed below and seek third party payment for the rest. The stages of foot risks, preventive care, and related costs for the MCN population using estimates projected from data in cited studies and clinical experience of providers in this area of Oklahoma are described in the table below.

Summary of MCN Lower Extremity and Foot Care Costs (Using 3000 persons as population with diabetes in MCN)

Level of Risk	(Estimated Percent of
---------------	-----------------------

Diabetes Population having this Risk) Number in MCN	
<b>Estimated Cost using National Data</b>	
Diabetes with no additional risk	(61%) 1830
Diabetes Care Costs	
<b>Diabetes with Loss of rotection Sensation (LOPS) only</b>	
	(20%) 600
	\$240,000.00
<b>Diabetes with Loss of Protective Sensation (LOPS) and other risks</b>	
	(12%) 360
	\$186,000.00
<b>Diabetes with Loss of Protective Sensation</b>	
	with previous ulcer
	(6%)180
	\$72,000.00
<b>Wound Care for active wounds</b>	
	(1%) 30
	\$83,940.00
<b>Amputations</b>	
	10**
	\$650,000.00
<b>Prosthetics</b>	
	10**
	\$40,000.00
<b>Estimated Total Cost</b>	
	\$1,271,940.00
	**RPMS data

Medicare and Medicaid Benefits for Tribal Citizens

Medicare is a federal health insurance program. It is ran by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Three months before a person turns 65 years of age they should visit their local Social Security Administration (SSA) office to enroll.

There are two parts to Medicare. The two parts are Hospital Insurance (Part A) and Medical Insurance (Part B). Part A covers Inpatient Hospital Care, Skilled Nursing Care, Home Health Care and Hospice Care. Part B covers Doctor's Services, Outpatient Services, Durable Medical Equipment and Home Health Care.

"It is just a matter of qualifying when Creek citizens sign up for Medicare Part B and D. Using Medicare part B would allow the Tribe to bill Medicare and generate more money for the Health system. It would save millions of dollars for our Contract Health," said Richard O'Mara, Performance/Improvement Officer for the Division of Health. "When it used within the Tribal System the deductible is paid by the Nation as well as the co-payments. It costs nothing extra to the patient."

While Medicare does cover a wide range of medical services; some items or services are excluded from Medicare coverage by law. Services covered under certain conditions include eye glasses (only after cataract surgery), Chiropractic services (only manipulation of spine), ambulance services (must be bed confined or a emergency), routine foot care (with certain medical conditions), services rendered outside the United States (with certain exceptions), routine screenings (have various time limits), screening mammograms, colorectal cancer screening, diabetes training and supplies, bone mass measurements, flu vaccinations, pneumococcal vaccinations, Hepatitis B vaccinations, Glaucoma screenings and medical nutrition therapy.

Medicaid and Medicare are not the same. Actually, they are different programs. Medicaid is a state-run program that provides hospital and medical coverage for people with low income and little or no resources. Each state has its own rules about who is eligible and what is covered under Medicaid. Some people qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid. For more information about the Medicaid program, contact your local medical assistance agency, social services or welfare office.

If a person can not afford to



Left to right = Sheryl Sharber, Dorothy Williams, Kathy Putnam, Meggin Bean, Jim Schmidtkofer, Tina Gordon, Kryston Auton, Dana Kelly)

Creek Nation celebrates National Nurses Week

OKEMAH - On May 6 the Creek Nation Community Hospital and the Okemah Community Clinic joined the American Nurses Association in celebrating National Nurses Week, which was held May 6-12.

The purpose of National Nurses week is to raise awareness of the value of nursing and help educate the public about the role nurses play in meeting the health care needs of the community and surrounding areas in which they live and work.

National Nurses Week is celebrated annually on the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the Founder of modern nursing. This year's theme for the week is iNurses Strength, Commitment, and Compassion.i This them embodies what it means to be a nurse today. Today's nurses must have the strength to care for patients during times of disaster

and crisis; they must have commitment to remain involved in continued education throughout their career. They must have the compassion it takes to provide hands on patient care at the bedside, as they have done throughout the centuries. The Nurses at the Creek Nation Hospital and Clinic are dedicated to their patients and to the profession which they have chosen.

In honor of the dedication, commitment and the timeless efforts of all nurses the Creek Nation Hospital and Clinic are proud to recognize our nurses during this week and all nurses for the quality of work they provide seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Our Nursing Staff consist of the following: Auton, Kryston ort/cst; Barnett Patty,LPN; Been Shirely, CRT; Bridgeford Alma, RN; Farris, Rhinda, LPN; Hill Maxine, LPN; Fixico June,

LPN; Grace Tom, RN; Kelly Dana, LPN; Hoagland Pat, LPN; Isham Arlene, LPN; Williams Dorothy, LPN; Simpson Lucinda, LPN; Stafford Donna, LPN; Magness Mary, RN; Bean Meggin, RN; Given, Martha, LPN; Kenneda Charlotte, LPN; Harjo Linda, LPN; Pack Darrellyn, LPN; Lowe Brenda, LPN; Larney Abbie LPN; Lee Jacquetta, RN; Miller Heather, RN; Martin Becky, RN; McElyea Teri, RN; Putman Kathy, RN; Jumper Loretta,LPN; Ramirez Tarsha, LPN; Roberts Kathy, LPN; Schmidtkofer Jim, RN; Sharber Sheryl RN; Slayton Laura, RN; Stafford Sandy, RN; Cheatman Pat, RN; Gordon Tina, RN; Immel Sharon, RN; Walker Linda, RN; Pound Debbie, RN; Watson Konowa, LPN; Devine Sheila, MA; Giles Susan, Unit Coord.; Schmidtkofer Eva, Clerk; Sands Lisa, Clerk

HOLDENVILLE - 1st Annual Hughes County Health Fair

HOLDENVILLE – The first annual Hughes County Health Fair will be sponsored by the Holdenville Chamber of Commerce and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives (CHR).

The health fair will be held on May 19 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Holdenville Indian

Community Center located at 224 East Popular. This event will be free to the public, including free snacks, blood pressure and blood sugar checks, door prizes, vendors, art & crafts, and more. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation CHR Program at (918) 756-1941.

At Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Clinics New Services for your best health!

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Diabetes self-management education is the foundation of successful diabetes care. EPIC is 5 sessions long and includes information for:

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You will learn:

- Normal values for tests and exams
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- Know your medicines
- Identify signs of complications



Headlands Indian Health Careers Program begins in June

NORMAN nIndian Health Careers Program will be held June 4 through July 29, 2006, on the OU Norman campus.

American Indian high school seniors and first-year college students that are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions are encouraged to apply for this intense eight week enrichment program offering mini block courses in calculus, chemistry, physics and biology. These courses are designed to increase the student's knowledge and prepare them for the required college-level math and science coursework in the pre-health programs.

Students again will gain experience in the laboratory,

strengthen their communication and writing skills, and attend interactive presentation at the OU Health Sciences Center colleges of Public Health, Allied Health, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing. Field excursions to health clinics and hospitals also are included.

Travel, lodging and meal expenses will be provided for each student accepted into the program.

The Headlands program is sponsored by the Oklahoma Native American Export center with funding from the National Center of Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health.

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Frequently Asked questions about MCN housing programs

How do I know if I am eligible for any housing programs?

Although each program has its own specific requirements here are some of the basic eligibility requirements.

- An applicant must qualify as a family (includes a family with or without children, an elderly family, a near elderly family a disabled family and a single person). At least one family member must be of Indian descent.
- An applicant must be 18 years of age.
- An applicant must be low income living in or wish to live in the Creek Nation boundaries except for the Mortgage Assistance Program which includes the state of Oklahoma.
- Applicant's income must be within the national median income as set by HUD. Income limits are adjusted for family size and updated on an annual basis.
- The applicant will be required to provide all information requested on the application, necessary forms and certifications. All information and statements made by the applicant are subject to verification.

How do I apply?

Each applicant wishing to participate in any Housing program must submit in person, a complete, signed, and dated written application to the Housing Division Admissions Department for processing according to specific program eligibility requirements. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED.

Can I apply if I currently live out of state?

An applicant may apply for any of the Housing Program services without presently living within the Creek Nation but if determined eligible must be willing to live and accept services within the Creek Nation boundaries. In the case of the Mortgage Assistance Program the applicant must be willing to purchase or build, and live within the State of Oklahoma.

If I am a tribal member other than Creek but within the Creek boundaries am I still eligible for a home?

You may apply and be eligible; however, preference will be given to Creek citizens with families, regardless of approval date. According to policy, preferences are given in this order:

- (1) Eligible Creek Citizens who are involuntarily displaced by government agencies or natural disaster, including fires.
- (2) 4/4 Creek large families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped.
- (3) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped 1/2 or more.
- (4) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped less than 1/2
- (5) Single 4/4 Creek Citizen, non-elderly, non-disabled, or non-handicapped.
- (6) Single less than 4/4 Creek Citizen
- (7) Other Indian Tribes

Do I have to already own land to be eligible for a new construction home?

No, in most cases new construction houses are built on land acquired by HACN. You may use land that you have readily available but it must meet all environmental requirements. What is donated property? Property that applicant is willing to donate to Housing in order to build them a home. Is it faster if I have land to build a home on? If title to the land is free and clear the process may be speeded up. Undivided, restricted, or unprobated land will often slow the process.

If I want to donate property how much will I need?

Because rural sites will require an individual sewage system housing recommends at least 2 1/2 acres. If the soil will not support a septic system an alternative system must be constructed requiring the 2 1/2 acres.

What size house would I receive?

House size is determined by number of bedrooms. The number of bedrooms is based on family size.

What happens to the house if the homebuyer dies before paying the house off?

When you sign the contract to move into your house, you will select one successor (a person you want the house to go to in the event of death). Your successor has to be an immediate family member, basically a grandparent, parent, brother, sister, or child, and a member of a federally recognized tribe. The chosen successor must also meet all Homeownership program eligibility requirements.

Does Housing provide insurance?

Yes, for the duration of the twenty five year contract. Amerind Insurance, based out of New Mexico covers the structure only, not the contents. We encourage you to purchase renters insurance for the contents. You may also contact Amerind for renters insurance. In addition, property taxes are also paid throughout the contract.

Does Housing provide any home repair services?

The Rehabilitation of Privately-Owned Homes Program provides assistance to existing homeowners. The scope

of items included under the program may include roof repair, foundation repair, plumbing, electrical, sewer systems, HVAC repairs, or installations. Not included under the program are general maintenance, cosmetic repairs, or replacement of major appliances, such as, refrigerator, stove, washer, or dryer.

Does Housing have any home loan programs?

Housing has two home loan programs. The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help eligible clients with grant

assistance for typical mortgage loans costs, such as down payments and closing costs. The recently developed Direct Lending Program provides eligible clients a 0% loan for 25 years to construct or purchase their own home according to HUD regulations. Direct Lending clients must meet the same eligibility requirements as the Lease with Option to Purchase program.

How do I find out more information about these programs?

Contact the Housing Division at 918-756-8504, Toll-free 1-800-259-5050, or go to our website at [www.creeknation-housing.org](http://www.creeknation-housing.org) and email us at [webmail@creeknationhousing.org](mailto:webmail@creeknationhousing.org) g. Our offices are located at 2951 N. Wood Dr., Okmulgee, OK.

Muscogee Nation News  
P.O. Box 580  
Okmulgee, OK  
74447

HUD - 184 Native American Mortgage Program\*  
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Cell: (918)348-1074  
Toll Free:(800)259-2455

Helping our Tribal Citizens Realize the Dream of Homeownership  
Providing help through the Mortgage Assistance Program  
Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.  
The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.  
To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).  
• Be a first time home buyer.  
• Live within the state of Oklahoma.  
• Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.  
• Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.  
• Be 18 years or older.  
• Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.  
• Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.  
• Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.  
• Preference given to Creek Citizens.  
Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.  
For More Information Contact:  
MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
P.O. Box 297  
Okmulgee, Ok 74447  
1-800-259-5050  
918-759-4137  
The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the  
MUSCOGEE(CREEK)NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM  
  
Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.  
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes. The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses. To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence. The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property. The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.  
For more information about the program contact  
Lenora McPerryman  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing  
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

## Higher Education Program Information

The Creek Nation Higher Education Administration serves college students who are tribal members residing and attending Colleges and Universities in the United States. Our purpose is to provide supplemental financial assistance to students of Creek descent pursuing a college and post college level education.

**HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP (BIA )**  
Maximum amount of Award per semester/quarter:  
\$0 - \$1000 Dependent  
\$0 - \$1500 Independent  
\$0 - \$2000 Married

**Requirements:**  
Possess CDIB Card  
(Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood)  
Possess Creek Tribal Enrollment Card

Recent Photo  
Letter of Acceptance from College /University  
High School Transcript or GED Certificate and College Transcript (if prior college)  
Signed Privacy Statement attached to application

Financial need must be established through the University Financial Aid

Students who receive the grant are expected to earn 15 hours per semester or quarter with a GPA of 2.0 or more. The awards must show academic progress: Students earning less than 15 hours or less than 2.0 shall be placed on probation. Students earning less than 12 hours or less with a GPA of less than 1.0 shall be suspended, unless student can provide a documentary evidence of illness. The Higher Education

Scholarship is limited to 10 semesters, 150 hours or Bachelor's degree and for first time degrees. (Limit for a junior/community college is 5 semesters or 60 to 65 hours or associate degree).

Closing Date: Summer June 1st & Fall June 1st

### TRIBAL GRANT

The Tribal Funds Grant will award applicants who are enrolled tribal citizens.

Maximum amount of Award per semester:

Full-Time Students (12 hrs or more): \$1,000 per semester/quarter

Part-Time Students (less than 12 hrs): \$ 500 per semester/quarter

### Requirements:

Possess Creek Tribal Enrollment Card  
Provide Recent Photo  
Signed Privacy Statement attached to application  
Education Plan attached to application  
Verification of enrollment is established through the University and College Registrar's Office

The student must maintain a 2.5 GPA for program compliance. It is the student's responsibility to submit grades from the previous term for continuance of program. Students earning a term GPA below 2.5 and 1.5 shall be placed on probation. Those earning below 1.5 GPA for the term and those withdrawing without a valid medical reason shall be suspended from the program. To become eligible for reinstatement, student must finance self and provide grades earning 12 hours at 2.5.

The award may be used to supplement other sources of aid. This program is limited to 10 semesters per student.

Closing date: Summer June 1st & Fall June 15th

### INCENTIVE GRANT

The Tribal Incentive Grant

will award enrolled tribal citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who meet the grade point requirement of a 3.0 or more for the current term at an accredited college or university.

### Maximum amount of Award per semester:

Full-Time Students (12 hrs or more): \$500 per semester/quarter

Part-Time Students (less than 12 hrs): \$250 per semester/quarter

This program is limited to 10 semesters. Students may apply within 45-days after the end of term.

### Applications request:

MUSCOGEE (CREEK)  
NATION HIGHER  
EDUCATION  
ADMINISTRATION  
P O Box 580  
Okmulgee, OK 74447.  
Phone #918-732-7689  
or  
cdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov  
All programs operate on availability of funds.

## National Council Approves Higher Education Grants

The Higher Education Administration is announcing the availability of Summer 06 Tribal Grants due to NCA 06-088 just recently approved by the National Council. The grants are for attendance at 2-year junior/community colleges and 4-year universities. Please apply by June 1st, 2006. Application forms are available on-line at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Website. The continuing students on our program were sent renewal forms and if plans are to attend Summer 06; please mark on the form and return as soon as possible. The higher education staff congratulates all the graduates and wishes them a successful future.

## Creek Nation Higher Education Awards Citizens at Bacone

MUSCOGEE- On Friday, May 5th, Student Support Services of Bacone College hosted a graduate luncheon to honor its graduates as well as Native students who received tribal funding. SSS is a federally- funded program who work with low-income / 1st generation students by offering career, personal, academic, and financial aids assistance. Representatives from Choctaw, Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Eastern Cherokee, and United Keetoowah tribes were also there to present their graduates with certificates of accomplishment as well as words of wisdom. The featured speaker was Nicholas Lewis, Bacone Track coach, who encouraged the grads to seek further education. This is the 2nd annual luncheon which will continue to grow. Muscogee Creek Nation Higher Education Representatives Jerri On the Hill and Christine Durden presented certificate of recognition for achievement of excellence to two Muscogee Creek Nation students Tammy Wheeler and Elizabeth Rhoden for completion of excellence.

## Head Start Continues Old Tradition



Excited Head start children preparing for the race

Little Olympics is an old tradition that the Head Start program has coordinated for approximately twenty-five (25) years. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program begins by competing with other Head Start Programs, which soon stopped. The Little Olympics is not a competition event, but rather a fun day for children to participate with children from

other head start programs. Head Start staff, teach the children that it is not a win or lose activity because all the children are winners and receive medals, which state just that. The events for the children are: Hurdle, dash, and relay. The Head Start Program certainly cannot forget the parent/staff relay to wrap up for the day. Staff and parents from each of the eight (8) sites form a team

and run the relay race. All participants have fun and receive a "winner" medal. The Head Start would like to give a thank you to the staff for their hard work in making this year's Little Olympics a success and the Head Start would like to give a special thank you to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives staff who provided the participants with Gatorade.

# CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM

## JUNE 16TH & 17TH, 2006



# NATIVE AMERICAN DRESS DAY

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Chief Declares May Older Native Americans Month



Eufaula Indian Community receives funding for skating rink



4 Love of the Fame All-Stars Way Out West



# Chief Ellis host 3rd Annual Ceremonial Leaders Meeting

OKMULGEE - Principal Chief A.D. Ellis held his third annual Mekko’s meeting on April 8, 2006. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill gave invocation to the guests. Wilbur “Chebon” Gouge the former Speaker of the 9th, 11th & 12th National Council sessions welcomed the group and gave an overview of the meeting in our language. Chief Ellis welcomed the ceremonial leaders to the 3rd annual meeting. Ellis assured them that they would be informed of the services available to the grounds which include services that would address issues such as, sanitation, receptacle delivery and installation and trash pickup service. In June 2006, there are plans to demolish the old IHS building. The metal from the building will be available to grounds people to use at their camps and will be possibly ready to pick up in the late fall. There are also plans to purchase a wood chipping machine that will convert old wood, in to wood chips for various uses in the late fall. Land purchases and issues were also brought up. The tribe has purchased acreage in Okmulgee County, the site of Arbeka ceremonial ground and others are in negotiations. He gave an update of progress of these previous two meetings and his hopes of progress to come in the next two years. Chief Ellis hopes that those in the future will continue these meetings.

Speaker George Tiger and Second Speaker Roger Barnett welcomed the group. Speaker Tiger explained the programs funding and appropriation process. Speaker recognized former speaker Thomas Yahola (Tukvpevtce) acknowledged representatives James Jennings

(Okmulgee), and Eddie LaGrone (Muskogee). Speaker Tiger explained the protocol for legislation. “We can control some things when it comes to federal guidelines we have to work within them in and our structure there are some things we can examine and address these issues. We’d like to know what we can do to help the Mekkos and their grounds. These meetings today are very informal, there are no rules”. Tiger stated that he “Was very fortunate to be invited to the 3rd annual meeting. He felt good about this session and he thanked Chief Ellis for conducting this type of meeting. “We (the administration) are on the same page on events and would like to work together”. Second Speaker Barnett said he hopes to help take care of the needs of the grounds, advises them to start with their legislatures in their district. See what programs that were available and could address their individual problems. He urged the group to utilize their legislators and representatives.

Cason Le Blanc represented Indian Health Services’ and presented their new “Special Projects’ appropriation. Special

projects include those to conduct solid waste feasibility studies, to provide additional O&M operator training courses and to assist some Tribes alleviating public health problems at tribal community buildings. LeBlanc explained the criteria and funding break-

(Thomas Moore) found the map in his law office during a move, someone had given it to him in 1940. On this map it shows how many active ceremonial grounds existed. Many of those in attendance today are the direct descendents of those grounds.

resources. The office receives requests from various tribal departments, BIA, IHS, University professors and students and individuals as well as state and federal departments before a project is initiated to do a cultural impact to survey to see

if there are cultural resources in that area that could be affected by a project and would need to be avoided. Projects may include road construction, bridge repair/expansion, possible cattle or hunting leases, building or house construction, cell tower construction or other development projects. Use of satellite GPS technology to map the location of historical and cultural resources such as archaeological sites, family cemeteries, graves of tribal members, historic trails, battlefield sites, churches, historic markers and historic buildings, such as Nuyaka, Mission and Eufaula Boarding School. The department had questions to consider in the mapping of our ceremonial grounds. They first wanted to meet with the Ceremonial Ground Mekkos to find out if the Mekkos would considered the mapping, what proximity they would prefer to be mapped and to whom would have access to

this information. She requested to schedule another meeting with the grounds to discuss the matter to get their perspective and preferences. If they chose to participate, Jacobs hopes to get some response for another meeting to address the mapping issues.

Yvette Willey from Environmental Specialist discussed scheduling for trash pickups after Ceremonial Ground gatherings. Trash service is now available not just during green corn but year round. They have two sizes of receptacles available to provide each ground and will be delivered for their use. She urged the grounds to contact her and utilize this service that has not been offered before now.

There were eight Ceremonial Grounds represented by the Mekkos and or designees that were present. They were allowed time to speak about the concerns and make requests as needed. Those in attendance were Duck Creek Mekko Simon Harry and Second Chief Felix Brown. Hickory Ground’s Mekko George Thompson and Helisaya Tim Thompson. Green Leaf Mekko Bill Proctor and Second Chief Jimmy Deere. Hillabee Mekko Daniel Harjo and Joe Jackson. Arbeka Mekko Raymond Meeley. Weogufkee Eugene “Bon” Thomas, Jr. Kellyville (Polecat) Jim Brown. Okfuskee Second Chief Hill and Farron Culley. Tallahassee Cromwell Mekko Thomas Yahola and Second Chief Rufus Scott. The group was in agreement and appreciated these meetings. Most feel Chief Ellis has been successful in his intended goal and that was to bridge the gap between the grounds and the tribal administration.



L-R, representing Hickory Ground; Helisaya Tim Thompson, Mekko George Thompson, Duck Creek; Speaker Felix Brown and Mekko Simon Harry.

Photo By Ruth Bible

down and the funding process.

MCN Judicial Branch Judge Patrick Moore discussed Law in Indian Country. Moore announced changes to our current constitution. He explained some things about this topic. Moore said “that about 150 years ago, my great-grandfather was the Cussetah Mekko”. Moore stated that Cussetah’s fire is out, he begged on behalf of his great-grandfather not to let any more fires go out. He shared a copy of a map with the ceremonial grounds that was dated 1891. Moore’s late father

He asked the Mekkos “Please, do not let any more of these fires go out”. Included also in this packet is a copy of the Constitution of the Amendment. “The first meeting was held last Tuesday it was then that I was instructed to come before you today”. Moore explained that he would like to have our Mekko’s input on the big changes in our Constitution.

Cultural Preservation’s Cultural Technician Johnnie Jacobs discussed the mission of their department and was to identify and protect our cultural

## Native Americans raise awareness of sacred sites

A United Methodist News Service (UMNS) Feature By Linda Green, UMNS writer

Around the United States this spring, Native Americans and others are holding marathons and other events to focus public attention on the ongoing threats to the sacred places of indigenous people.

Native Americans throughout the United States are running in a relays and marathons to ancient sites and mounds to connect with their pasts. The runs have been under way since February, and United Methodist churches have been providing hospitality to the runners. In the process, congregations are learning about the plight of sacred sites, which are threatened by housing, commercial and transportation development.

Sacred Sites Run 2006 also includes a traveling exhibit, “Ancient North American Civilization,” featuring historical sites that are recognized or have the potential to be recognized by governing agencies. Runners are gathering data at places where sites once existed and recording why they were destroyed.

Native American sacred places are where native people practiced their traditional religions and conducted rituals for peace for all of earth’s creation. Many of those sites have been desecrated and endangered by pollution, looting, vandalism and federal allocation of lands. Laws exist to protect Native American sacred sites, but in some areas, the laws are ignored.

The United Methodist Church’s lawmaking body adopted a resolution titled “The Protection of Native American Sacred Sites” in 2000 and again in 2004. In it, the church resolves that its Board of Church and Society should continue supporting legislation that would provide for a legal cause of action when sacred sites may be affected by governmental action. The resolution

calls on the board to communicate with the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs to strengthen the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 and to preserve traditional Native American sacred sites.

“Cultural restoration and spiritual balance (are) needed in our communities to bring

*From the indigenous perspective, the run reaffirms the commitment to sacred places, promotes cultural continuity and builds unity to promote mutual understanding between nations, and generates national pride*

about healing (for) ourselves as Native American people through the remembrance of these ancient sites and the one-time grandeur of past civilizations,” said Melba Checote Eads, an organizer of a March 19 run beginning at Pinson Mounds in Jackson, Tenn.

The Pinson Mounds, among the oldest in North America, are threatened by development, Eads said. The 2006 Sacred Sites Run in the Southeast starts there as an attempt to educate non-Native Americans and the United Methodist Church about ancient civilizations and to emphasize that preserving ancient earthworks is a “justice issue,” she said. Eads is also coordinator of the Native American Gatherers’ Fellowship of Nashville, Tenn., and a member of Leesville United Methodist Church, Lebanon, Tenn.

Runners, traveling 50 miles

a day, will run from Wisconsin and throughout the Southeast. States included in the run are Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois and Minnesota. When the run ends Sept. 9 at Lake Park Mound in Milwaukee, the runners will have traveled more than 3,000 miles “to bring healing to our land,” said Ben Yahola, a Native American United Methodist in Milwaukee.

Other runs include one that started in California and is scheduled to end in Washington on Earth Day, April 22. That 71-day run is swinging through the Gulf Coast, where participants will help with rebuilding areas damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Runners will be gathering soil near many Mississippian cultural sites, dating back 12,000 years, and other sacred places to establish a symbolic memorial in Milwaukee.

“This manner of bringing awareness to specific places is the first of a series of peaceful symbolic actions that is to remind the public that the descendants of mound builders continue to hold these ancient places sacred,” Yahola said. The collection of soil from around areas where sacred sites existed and exist today is not regarded as an act of destruction, since many sites today are on private property.

Gathering the soil together from around the United States is also a way to symbolize the migrations of native peoples who were removed from their lands and to raise awareness of the connections that sacred sites have to Native people, Yahola said.

“From the indigenous perspective, the run reaffirms the commitment to sacred places, promotes cultural continuity and builds unity to promote mutual understanding between nations, and generates national pride,” he said.

Those wanting to join Sacred Sites Run 2006 or wanting more information may visit [www.sacredsitesrun.org](http://www.sacredsitesrun.org).

## Native American History Series: Long Knives

By Patrick E. Moore

The United States purchased what is now Oklahoma by negotiating with France and both world powers settled on a purchase price for the Louisiana Purchase \$23,213,567.73 including interest, the date for transfer of title to be November 3, 1803. President Thomas Jefferson with this single land purchase almost doubled the size of the then young United States.

Trappers and traders, in small numbers, had been frequenting portions of the Louisiana Purchase for almost two hundred years by November 3, 1803, however, with the United States now theoretically owning this vast territory the flood gates opened and the new breed of soldier, frontiersman and explorer entered upon these vast lands.

These adventurers called “Long Knives” by the Native Americans because of the swords, sabers and large knives they carried quickly made their presence known on all the rivers and streams of what is now Oklahoma. Oklahoma was most important as a gateway to the west, since it alone allowed waterway access to the great plains. Large populations of Native Americans were anxious for trade goods and were able to provide traders splendid furs and popular buffalo robes that were in high demand along the eastern United States coast and in Europe.

The territory now comprising Oklahoma was also strategically located allowing immigrant for access to Spanish land that is now Texas and New Mexico. The general thought by politicians in Washington during 1803 was that traders and trappers would enter the area first followed later by the farmer and the land that is now Oklahoma would become the first state formed out of the Louisiana Purchase. Subsequent Presidents and a general government attitude change in Washington, D.C., Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi toward Native Americans ironically resulted in Oklahoma being the

last area of the Louisiana Purchase to acquire statehood.

The United States Congress in 1804 placed the Louisiana Purchase under the jurisdiction of Indiana Territory. The governor of Indiana Territory was William H. Harrison, who would later become a hero of the War of 1812 and the ninth president of the United States.

President Thomas Jefferson, the man responsible for the Louisiana Purchase, ordered the Secretary of War in 1806 to explore, map rivers and highlands, record data on Native Americans living in the area, identify rocks, minerals, plants and animals through out the Louisiana Purchase. The United States Government began the mapping and exploration of the Red and Arkansas Rivers during 1806. These expeditions were the first United States entry into present day Oklahoma.

Spain was very concerned with this United States exploration because they did not agree with the southern and western boundaries of the Louisiana Purchase. Spanish officials at Nacogdoches in Texas and Santa Fe further west issued stern warnings that no exploration was to be undertaken until the boundaries had been settled. The Spanish were quoted “to send a party of soldiers to the sources of the rivers in the disputed territory would be an insult to Spain and would cause that power to retaliate by forcing the invaders to return.”

The United States in spite of the warning went ahead with the expedition under the command of a Captain Richard Sparks. Captain Sparks and twenty-four soldiers in two flat-bottomed boats left Natchitoches (now Louisiana) June 2, 1806. Upon reaching the Red River progress was stymied by miles of logs chocking the entire river channel.

Captain Sparks met with several Caddo warriors who were returning from a hunting expedition in Texas. These Caddos informed him that the Spanish had information about his small party and had dispatched a force of three hundred mounted sol-

diers to search for and stop his further exploration.

Captain Spark’s party had reached the southeastern corner of present Oklahoma, gone ashore and began to set up camp, when the Spanish cavalry from the fort at Nacogdoches under the command of Don Francisco Viana charged out of the underbrush on the Texas side of the river. The shallow water was crossed at a full gallop and within seconds Captain Sparks and his twenty-four soldiers were in Spanish custody. Commander Viana gave the United States soldiers two choices 1) return to Natchitoches or 2) be arrested and placed in jail at Nacogdoches. Out numbered by more than ten to one Captain Sparks ordered his men to load their boats and return down the river to Natchitoches.

Captain Spark’s expedition was the first official visit to present day Oklahoma by a United States official and also revealed to President Thomas Jefferson that the Spanish were intent on keeping the United States out of the south west.

From Saint Louis a similar expedition was also launched in 1806 to explore the Arkansas River and map lands to the Rocky Mountains. Twenty-three men under the command of Captain Zebulon M. Pike left Saint Louis sometime during the summer months and traveled up the Missouri and Osage rivers as far a boat could navigate, there they traded for horses from the Osage Nation for the trek across country to the Rocky Mountains. The journal of one Lieutenant James Wilkinson, Pike’s second-in-command, tells of a great Osage feast the expedition was treated to before leaving. They were served green corn, watermelons and buffalo.

Captain Pike’s small force traveled northwest to the Pawnee Nation on the Republican River in present northwest Kansas. Pawnee scouts informed Captain Pike that a large force of Spanish Cavalry from Santa Fe had been

See **Series** Continued On Page B7

Native entertainer promoting CD, play

By Gerald Wofford  
MNN Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES – Ten years ago, Arigon Starr was working in Los Angeles. Starr was comfortable in a corporate position working for entertainment giants such as Showtime and Viacom. Starr was doing publicity work for celebrities such as Vanessa Williams, Luther Vandross, Jon Voight and others. But Arigon, (pronounced Air-ce-gun) knew there was much more in store for her. Starr knew how to play the guitar, as well as other musical instruments and wanted the chance to show what she could do. Even in 1996, Starr’s musical talent was already growing, “I was playing a lot of the coffee houses around LA,” remembers Starr, “those were some long nights. I would go to work and do my 9 to 6 job and then maybe take a couple of hours off and then pack up my guitar and then go and sit in a coffee house from 9 in the evening till 1 in the morning. Just picking and grinning and telling stories.” The experience of paying some dues would benefit Starr greatly, as she began to see a fan following. Playing in Los Angeles meant Starr would often perform for a more non-Indian crowd, but Starr didn’t forget who she was and made sure those watching and listening didn’t either. “That was one of the motivations for me to do the music,” remembers Starr. “Because I was looking out there (crowd) and I remember when I was growing up, and this might tell you how old I am,” laughs Starr. “I remember RedBone and they had that song ‘Come and get your love’ and I was just a little kid then, but I was like ‘those guys are Indians and there singing, Oh my gosh! Then there was Rita Coolidge and I thought if there are others too like Buffy Saint-Marie, I thought I wanted to do that!’”

Starr would incorporate her Indian family and friends in her songs and pay tribute to them, because she wanted the coffee-house crowd to know her world too. “A lot of times, performers would come out on the stage and say the name of the song, and start playing and singing and just look down at their shoes,” laughs Starr. “I knew I that I couldn’t get away with that because I wanted people to

know why I was singing a particular song. If I was singing about a pow-wow or something like that I would say “this song is about a pow-wow that I went to and hooked up with someone and we call it “snaggin”, and just make a joke of it. People would come up to me and say, “Wow I never knew about pow-wows or that you would see each other along the road.” But Starr counted that as valuable teaching time. “It was a great educational tool, although I wanted people to know who we (Indians) were, that we were still living, and that we actually lived in the modern contemporary world.”

Starr, who is of Creek-Cherokee-Seneca, and Kickapoo descent, was in cruise control now and the experience of live performances encouraged her to fulfill her dream. Starr would leave the familiar surroundings of a stable, professional job to pursue her music career full-force, but the need to support herself was still a reality, and Starr would rely on other talents to help make ends meet. “There was a lady I know named Dawn Jackson who worked over at Disney,” says Starr, “and she worked over at the Disney stores and she also knew that I was an artist and she said to me, “What would you think about drawing some Disney cartoons for our apparel. Because they did T-shirts with the Disney characters and she said if I could think of some creative ways to do that, then I could hire you as a freelance artist, so I finally had a way to not rely on a corporate paycheck. Plus after a while of serving people all the time, you would pick up a movie-star and make sure their limo is on time or get their first class ticket to London and back, you know that gets kind of old, plus after a while you want to be on the other side of that, someone to start getting a limo for you,” laughs Starr.

The artistic outlets of this talented Native American lady is truly extraordinary, and what made it even more remarkable was that Starr had no formal education training, in music or drawing.

“All this stuff, was just God-given talent from my Mom and her family, because my grandpa was a great artist, he could draw and so was my Dad’s brother,

*“All this stuff was just God-given talent from my Mom and her family, because my grandpa was a great artist, he could draw and so was my Dad's brother Rudy, both of them were just amazing artists and my Mother is musical like nobody's business . . .”*

Rudy, both of them were just amazing artists and my Mother is musical like nobody’s business and so I just got lucky on the gene pool, I guess.” Starr has also created Native American paintings as well.

With the free-lance job as a artist for the Disney stores, Starr was successful and even able to finance her first CD which was titled “Meet the Diva”. Starr, who is an avid Beatles fan, admits that it was the Fab Four’s influence that helped her name her first release. “The Beatles music and humor compelled me to pick up a guitar and begin to write songs. In fact, the title of the CD, meet the Diva, is a homage to the Fab Four’s US LP, ‘Meet the Beatles’.”

Her musical career was beginning to take off. ‘Meet the Diva’ was named Best Independent Recording at the Second Annual Native American Music Awards. In 2000, Starr would follow up with her second release entitled ‘Wind-Up’. This follow up work would even establish Starr even more, because the work contained a special song called “Junior Frybread” which captured the award of Song/Single of the Year at the Fourth Annual Native American Music Awards. By this time, Starr was signed on

with Wacky Productions.

Even in the hotbed of modern day Los Angeles, which might be known for more edgy, modern music, Starr’s style was known for a more traditional sound. “The music I was playing could be described more as ‘Country-Rock’, and kind of folk as well,” says Starr who was finding a nice mix of mainstream styles and native music and humor. In 2002, Starr kept on going and released her third CD ‘Backflip’, which again allowed her to show the unique blend she was creating and performing.

At this time, Starr was still catering to the Indian crowd as well. “A lot of people would hire me to do Indian benefits, and some pow-wows, but more like if someone had an honor dinner and they needed someone to play or sing.”

Starr’s talents doesn’t end with music or painting, she is also a very talented actress. A company called Native Voices at the Autry has featured her in several productions, including lead roles in the staged reading of Shirley Cheechoo’s *Moose River Crossing* and the West Coast premiere and Equity productions of Drew Hayden Taylor’s *The Buz’Gem Blues*. She played Mother Goodeye in the



Arigon Starr

*"I remember RedBone and they had that song 'Come and get your love' and I was just a little kid, but I was like "those guys are Indians and there singing, Oh my gosh!. Then there was Rita Coolidge and I thought if there are others too like Buffy Saint-Marie, I thought I wanted to do that!"*

Arigon Bio: (from Arigon Starr’s biography on www.arigonstarr.com)

“It’s pronounced like “arrogant” without the “t,”” grinned Kickapoo musician Arigon Starr. “People often mispronounce my name, but they never forget it!”

Proud, vivacious and full of energy, Arigon Starr continues to defy the odds of becoming a successful artist in the music business. Her debut CD, MEET THE DIVA, earned an enthusiastic response from Native, college and community radio stations ñ plus a prestigious Native American Music Award for “Best Independent Recording.”

Arigon’s blend of pop, rock, country, punk and funk reflects her upbringing as a military “brat.” “We pulled up stakes about every two years while I was going to school,” she said. “There’s an old country song that tells the story of a person who’s been ‘everywhere, man’ and that describes my life. I was born in Florida and have spent time in Tennessee, Maryland, New Jersey, Oklahoma, New Mexico, California – you name it.” The eclectic mix of scenery, music and people helped form her unique approach to contemporary Native American music. “The music must serve the song ñ and help tell the story. Taking elements of different styles of music and mixing them up seems to me to be the most natural thing in the world.”

Musical storytelling is one of Arigon’s fortes. In 2001, The Native American Music Awards chose “Junior Frybread,” from her second release WIND-UP, as the Song of the Year. “Accepting that award was a personal triumph for me,” she smiled. “When I made the decision to leave my corporate job and become a full-time musician, I knew that I would make it on the strength of my songwriting. There are so many stories left untold in Native America. I feel honored to be a voice for the people.”

Arigon tells her “stories” as a performing musician on stages across the world, among them New York City, San Francisco, Seattle, New Orleans, Las Vegas, London and Los Angeles. She certainly hasn’t ignored her Native audiences with appearances on the Hopi and Navajo

reservations in Arizona, at the Cherokee Homecoming in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Warm Springs Reservation in Oregon and at the Milwaukee Indian Summer Festival.

It was on the road that she befriended country group BR549, who perform on several tracks of BACKFLIP. “Those boys are my very unlikely musical soulmates. I grew up listening to the kind of music they play, which is country music from the 50’s and 60’s. It was the first time ever that my dad and I liked the SAME band,” she laughed. “It turned out that one of the band members, Chuck Mead, had gone to school with my cousin in Lawrence, Kansas. We instantly bonded over that ñ and trying to determine who was the most hardcore Beatles fan.

Chuck has got me beat on that.” Don Herron (fiddle, pedal steel, mandolin and banjo) adds a “down-home” feeling to several of the tracks, while vocalist Gary Bennett wraps his warm, soulful tenor voice around Arigon’s music – especially the stunning “Mountain Windsong.” “Gary is probably one of the most amazing harmony singers I’ve ever heard. What he does is instinctive and from the heart. You won’t find too many singers like him,” said Arigon.

Returning from Arigon’s previous CD projects are drummer Nicholas Peters (a member of California’s LuiseOo tribe), lead guitarist Jeff Ruiz and engineer/keyboardist Ben Moore. Making his first appearance on an Arigon release is bassist Tyler Grant.

CITY PRESENTS AMERICAN INDIAN BLVD TO AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (May 12, 2006) – The world will soon log on to the many online map finders in search of the American Indian Cultural Center and find it located on American Indian Boulevard. May 11, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. Mayor of Oklahoma City, Mick Cornett will symbolically present American Indian Boulevard to Governor Anaoatubby, Governor of the Chickasaw Nation and Chairman of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority (NACEA). Immediately south of I-40 and at the east entrance of the future site of the Cultural Center Complex the street has been renamed American Indian Boulevard. This dedication will take place on the Cultural Center site and represents the Cities commitment and partnership with the NACEA to build and create a MONUMENTAL place that will give all Oklahomans not only a world class destination and tourism attraction, but also a sense of pride as 300 acres of neglected land is transformed into the Central Park of

Oklahoma.

The dream began almost thirty years ago when Senators Kelly Haney and the late Robert M. Kerr, introduced legislation to establish the NACEA to design, construct and operate an American Indian Cultural Center and Museum. The NACEA has been positively advancing the creation of this new institution by assembling a world class design and planning team that demonstrated its commitment by investing significant time and resources with

Oklahoma City has decided to rename this portion of the street American Indian Boulevard. This is one of many signs that the American Indian Cultural Center is moving forward.i

The first phase of construction has begun with well excavation underway. In the past, the site has witnessed everything from Indian encampments to the development of an industrial oil field, realignment of the Oklahoma River, coming of the railroad, placement of utilities, the emergence of downtown Oklahoma City and redevelopment of

As the excavation work prepares the site for future construction Centennial Builders are finding various items that have been dumped on the grounds throughout the years, including tires. Centennial Builders Project Executive, John Jamison comments, “There is a mound of over one thousand tires. This helps illustrate how much site clean up must occur while we prepare to build on this location.

See Cultural Continued On Page B8

Reach The Rez Tour Reaches Creek Country



Second Chief Alfred Berryhill greets Litefoot on the grounds of the Creek Nation Complex. Photo By Ruth Bible

By Jason Salsman  
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE – In a joint effort with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, the “Reach The Rez” tour is making it’s way through the Creek Nation. The tour, which reaches out to Native youth and promises an inspirational journey for change and upliftment, reaches out to 211 reservations over 40 states while spanning 200,000 miles. The tour features Litefoot, an Cherokee Indian who has gained fame as an actor, rap artist and motivational speaker. The tour visited the Eufaula Dormitory

and Okemah Schools on May 12, and Litefoot stopped by the Creek Capitol complex for a visit. Tentative dates are set for May 15 at Mason School at 1:00 p.m. and at Sapulpa Jr./Sr. High School in the Chieftan Center at 1:45 p.m. on May 17. Additional dates throughout Creek Nation are being scheduled and will be available whenever they are finalized. Those who wish to keep track of tour dates can do so by logging on to the tour web site at www.reachtherez.org. Inquiries about dates in Creek territory can also be directed to the National Council office at (918) 732-7966.

# Native Praise sings to the world by Jennifer Taryole



Native Praise choir

Native Praise is a choir made up of over 100 women comprised with more than 40 churches. The choir sings traditional gospel songs of the Creek, Seminole, Cherokee and Choctaw tribes while dressed in their traditional clothing.

The women's choir began in 1999 and is a result of Native American LINK, a non-profit Christian organization located in Eufaula, Oklahoma.

Martha Johnson, Vice-President of LINK Executive Board, as well as member of Native Praise states, "I enjoy doing what I'm doing. This is currently our seventh year singing. We bring gospel through our songs everywhere we go."

According to their website, The choir has sung throughout Oklahoma from the Panhandle in northwest Oklahoma to Durant in the southeast corner, and from Weatherford in southwestern Oklahoma to Tahlequah

in the northeast, and many places in between. The choir also toured the mid-

Atlantic states of North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware in the spring of 2003, which included singing in the U.S. Capitol Building. In June 2003, Native Praise sung for a Native American rally held at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City, a rally sponsored by the Billy Graham Association. The choir has also traveled to Birmingham, England to sing for the Women's Leadership Conference of the Baptist World Alliance. They have sung in churches, state and national annual meetings (BGCO, Arkansas WMU, OK-WMU, SBC-WMU, Promise Seekers Ladies Retreat, Indian Falls Creek), for tribal events and cel-

ebrations, for wedding and funeral services, and for various conference gatherings bearing Native American emphasis.

The choir recently recorded a CD, which was released in July 2005. The CD is available in the Creek Nation Gift Shop located in Okmulgee Tribal Complex.

The choir continues to participate in worship experiences throughout churches in Oklahoma and surrounding states.

## Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Wesley Berry  
Crosstown Church

I want to begin this month's column, by acknowledging all our readers and saying thank you for all your support. Let's begin this month where we left off last, Why would the world want to invade and take control of LITTLE OL' ISRAEL.

If you've been following along with this particular article, you'll realize this is part of three of the OIL CRISIS series. As much as I understand the religious context of the sibling rivalry between Ishmael (the patriarch of the Muslim religion) and Isaac (the patriarch of the Jewish religion), I also understand that the rest of the world has really no interest in the feud between these two religious groups. But on the contraire, I believe the actual agendas of the nations of the world getting involved have little to do with religious differences and much to do with oil.

Regardless of what you may believe or not believe, the fact of the matter is something is brewing, something is forming on the horizon. On the front page of the Daily Oklahoman, Wednesday, May 3rd, 2006, In big bold letters it reads, READY FOR \$4-A-GALLON FUEL? Boone Pickens, Oklahoma native and oil executive, who has made millions predicting energy prices, said, "We're going to see \$4 a gallon gasoline this summer." Mr. Pickens also commented on the fact of not being surprised in the very near future to see a barrel of crude oil being sold for somewhere between eighty and one hundred dollars a barrel. The New York Mercantile Exchange closed Tuesday, May 2nd with crude oil selling for \$74.63 a barrel. And yet in Saudi Arabia, April 30th, 2006, King Abdullah issued a royal decree reducing domestic gasoline prices almost 30%. Therefore what equates to a gallon of gasoline in the United States, costs the Saudis, about 68 cents a gallon.

My question to you is, How long do you think the powers that be, will sit around and toler-

ate the high cost of crude oil without taking matters into their own hands. There's no doubt that something of prophetic significance has begun. Once again I want to remind you of the scripture found in Proverbs 13:22, amplified version, A good man leaves an inheritance (of moral stability and goodness) to his children's children, and the wealth of the sinner (finds its way eventually) into the hands of the righteous, for whom it was laid up. There are two very important locations in Israel to make mention of, the first one is the Dead Sea, which is the lowest spot on the earth, 1296 feet below sea level. As I mentioned in an earlier article, if oil is found in the Dead Sea it would drain all other oil fields in the region, simply because of its geological design. Therefore, causing the nations of the world to invade Israel for its oil. The second location in Israel to be mentioned is the area that since ancient times, has been known as Asher's foot. According to Deut. 33:24, Blessed above sons is Asher; Let him be acceptable to his brothers, and LET HIM DIP HIS FOOT IN OIL. If you were to look at a map of the region of Israel that pertained to the inheritance of the twelve tribes of Israel, you would notice the area that Asher inherited, it looks as if a toe protrudes from it. At that very point of reference is what they called Asher's foot. Now here's what I want you to know, at this very moment they're drilling in this area, and Israeli's geologist believe they're right on top of a great oil field discovery. Here's where the natural realm collides with the prophetic realm, the area that Asher's foot is located is in the same vicinity as the Valley of Megiddo, where the battle of Armageddon is fought.

I understand spiritually and scripturally the reason for the battle of Armageddon. But I also believe that not all the players of this great battle of nations, have to do with religious differences. I believe that some of their agendas will be for the sake of nation-

al posterity. Let me shed a little light, on the reasoning behind my thinking, because scripture states that in the end time there will be two major invasions of Israel. The first coming from what theologians believe is Russia and the second one will be China. Now here's the facts, both countries are officially atheist, therefore religion may or may not be a determining factor of the actual reasoning for invading Israel. Here's a footnote, if religion is the main purpose of invading, Why wouldn't the battle of Armageddon take place in Jerusalem, Instead of the Valley of Megiddo? Studying all of the information gathered from geological studies and from the exploratory drilling, the petroleum experts predict that the oil found in the Megiddo Valley has the potential to supply Israel with enough oil to last for seven years. Could this be the same 7-year period spoken of in the Word of God, when every nation in the world invades Israel and gathers in the Valley of Megiddo to destroy Israel? Is there any significance to the fact that prophetically, the two nations described in scripture as two major players of end time events, just happen to be on the list of most oil consuming nations in the world, China #2 and Russia #4?

That's the amazing thing about studying Eschatology, man in his limited wisdom and knowledge cannot declare the end of a thing, only God reserves that right, Matthew 24:36, "but of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." The fact of the matter, I don't know how all of this is going to play out, but I do know that Jesus's return is pre-eminent and my only concern is for me and mine to be ready and also for you and yours. I hope in writing this article it has caused you to take in to consideration the time frame we're living in and to make every moment count. We don't know, but the count down to Armageddon may have just begun.

# Faith, action converge at United Methodist Women's Assembly

By Linda Bloom, United Methodist News Service (UMNS) Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (UMNS) - In a "scary time" when war, terrorism, environmental calamity and unchecked poverty and disease are looming fears, United Methodist Women can still make practical expressions of their faith. That was the closing message from Jan Love to participants at the 2006 United Methodist Women's Assembly. Love is chief executive of the Women's Division, United Methodist Board of Global Ministries.

As a start, women can deepen their understanding of their own salvation and express the joy of their faith. Then they can "make every day a mission day," according to Love. "Continue with more determination to practice love, mercy, kindness and justice in your home, neighborhood, our nation and across the world."

New members can be recruited and shown how United Methodist Women "embraces all God's people" and advocates for women both inside and outside the church.

"Tell them that you belong to an organization that refuses to offer religious excuses or legitimization for violence, vengeance, deprivation and discrimination," Love said.

For more than 137 years, United Methodist Women has offered the love of Christ and "literally saved and served the lives of millions of women, children and youth" through its mission programs, Love pointed out. Under the theme, "Rise, Shine, Glorify God!" about 7,000 members gathered May 4-7 at the Anaheim Convention Center for worship and workshops, exhibits and education, community building and contemplation.

Love said she considered the assembly to be "a great big family reunion," strengthening community and "deepening people's understanding of their own faith journey."

The event opened with a grand procession of banners representing the 63 annual (regional) U.S. conferences of the United Methodist Church. Three large puppets in rose pink, green and blue - symbolizing the assembly logo - followed, swirling and billowing up the aisles to the central stage.

Kyung Za Yim, Women's Division president, welcomed participants and guided them in a call to worship accompanied by Latino, Tongan, African and Native American drumming. Chikara Daiko, a group from

Centenary United Methodist Church in the "Little Tokyo" neighborhood of Los Angeles, received an enthusiastic reaction for their Taiko - or classical Japanese - drumming.

### Speaking with courage

Social justice issues were a key focus of speakers May 5. Wahu Kaara, founder of the Kenya Debt Relief Network and a candidate in the 2007 presidential elections, knows living examples of the feminization of poverty and told the women they must speak "with unflinching courage" on the injustices that divide the world into "haves and have-nots."

Silvia Regina Lima e Silva, a Latin American theologian, called attention to the U.S. immigration debate by condemning the proposed fence between the United States and Mexico and calling increased border patrols "a manifestation of a growing racism and xenophobia which are becoming part of everyday life."

Anna Deavere Smith, known for her performance art about controversial issues - such as "Twilight: Los Angeles," which focused on the 1992 civil unrest following the Rodney King verdict - gave an evening presentation about her journalistic style of interviewing subjects and then interpreting their words.

She spoke warmly of her upbringing in the Union Memorial United Methodist Church in Baltimore - although she confessed she is now an Episcopalian - and talked about how she likes the repetition of words through the Bible and prayer.

Her grandfather told her that "if you say a word often enough, it becomes you." By repeating the words of the people she has interviewed and recorded on tape, Smith became a Jewish woman dealing with a Sabbath dilemma in Crown Heights, Brooklyn; a male doctor talking to a meeting of traditional healers in Uganda; a female prison inmate remembering how domestic violence led to the death of her daughter; and a Korean store owner bitter over the burning of her shop during the Los Angeles riots.

### Shining the light

On May 6, the Rev. Don Saliers, a composer of sacred music and professor at Candler School of Theology, and his daughter, Emily, one half of the Indigo Girls, demonstrated through song how music "takes us to places we wouldn't have expected to go."

Three women - Casimira

Rodriguez Romero, the new minister of justice for Bolivia; Kim Hallowell, a young adult and advocate against child labor; and Christy Tate Smith, a disaster consultant for the United Methodist Committee on Relief - provided personal examples of how Methodist women shine their light on the world.

Their stories were incorporated in a Bible study led by M. Garlinda Burton, chief executive of the United Methodist Commission on the Status and Role of Women, who urged assembly participants to find their own way to shine.

"We've got the love of Christ, the chutzpah of the Holy Spirit and more than 200 years of shining backing us up as Methodists," she declared.

The drummers of the opening worship represented the vast diversity of cultural arts found throughout the assembly. Sanctified Souljahz!, a group of youth connected with New Entra Casa, a San Diego program for ex-offenders and their children, offered a version of liturgical dance that members call "body worship."

Orquesta Candela, a Hispanic Christian salsa band from Los Angeles, roused the audience, and a Tongan women's choir and youth dance group from St. Mark United Methodist Church in Anaheim drew wild applause.

Saturday evening's entertainment featured the Clark University Steppers from Atlanta, performing a style of dance with roots from Africa, and the Ewha Alumnae Choir of Seoul, Korea, composed of the Methodist-supported Ewha University and Girls' High School.

## Church Activities

### Snake Creek Church

BIXBY - Snake Creek Indian Church #1 will be holding a revival May 18 through 21 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

The evangelists for Thursday and Friday will be George Harjochee and on Saturday and Sunday (morning) will be Allison Phillips. The theme for the revival is "Revive us again."

### Big Arbor Baptist Church

STIDHAM - Big Arbor Baptist Church will be having their vacation bible school on May 21 through 24 with classes from babies to adults. Sunday services will begin at 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday services will start at 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The theme will be "The Artistic Edge."

The church is located two and a half miles east of Stidham School.

### Springfield Methodist Church

OKEMAH - Springfield Methodist Church will be having their 23rd Annual Gospel Singing on May 28 beginning at 7 p.m.

The emcee will be Springfield Methodist members. Concession will be available.

The church is located from Okemah on Highway 27, three miles south, four miles east, and two miles south. Signs will be posted.

### Ward Coachman Memorial Singing

BRAGGS - Ward Coachman Memorial Singing will be held at Sand Springs Baptist Church on May 28 at 7 p.m.

The emcee will be Curtis Kinney. Concession will be available. Everyone welcome. Bring your own lawn chairs.

The church is located, one mile south of Braggs on Highway 10, then 1 1/4 mile west.

For more information, call

Curtis Kinney at (918) 682-4703.

### Wekiwa Baptist Church Revival

SAND SPRINGS - Wekiwa Indian Baptist Church will be having a revival on June 19 through 23 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

The speakers will include: Monday, Kenneth Cooper; Tuesday, Wallace Gambler; Wednesday, Greg Wilson; Thursday, Stan Henson and Friday, Mitchell Taylor.

### Youth Revival

OKEMAH - Buckeye Creek Baptist Church will be having a youth revival on July 20 through 22. All youth are welcome to come.

For more information, call (918) 623-4222.

### Indian Falls Creek

DAVIS - Indian Falls Creek 2006 will be held July 31 through August 4. This year's theme will be "All things are possible."

The camp preacher for morning service will be Waylon Bailey, Pastor of 1st Baptist Church of Covington, Louisiana and evening service preacher will be Dr. Robert Smith Jr., Professor of Preaching of Beeson Divinity School, Samford University of Birmingham, Alabama.

The worship team director will be Jesse Hernandez, 1st Baptist Church of Shawnee, Oklahoma. The Children's Church Director will be "Tricky Ricky" Henson, Evangelist of Jonesboro, Georgia.

For more information, contact Victor Cope, IFC Executive Director at (405) 598-8720.

### Muscogee Nation News

P.O. Box 580

[muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://muscogeenation-nsn.gov)

Check Out The Festival Information Located In Section C Of This Issue!

Principal Chief to declare May Older Native Americans Month

OKMULGEE - In honor of our elders who have made great contributions in our personal lives, throughout our communities, and within our Nation, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis will proclaim May as "Older Native Americans Month. This is the first such tribal proclamation for our elders as they enter into the new millennium. It is also a first for other elders who are recognized as part of the Baby Boom generation. The Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP), who will sponsor events at five of the Elderly

**MAY IS OLDER NATIVE AMERICANS MONTH**

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF ELDERLY CENTERS CHIEF A.D. ELLIS WILL BE VISITING THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF MAY TO HONOR CITIZENS FOR "OLDER NATIVE AMERICANS MONTH"

SAPULPA CENTER	MAY 17TH
MUSKOGEE CENTER	MAY 23RD
KOWETA CENTER	MAY 31ST

Nutrition sites throughout the month of May, proposed the idea of honoring our Native elders in tandem with the general population who also honors older Americans during the month of May. According to Lou Jean Fixico, Program Coordinator, "This is a good opportunity for us to honor our elderly. We can recognize them for what they have done in their lifetime, and for what they have given us." The theme for this initiative is "Renew Your Body, Mind and Spirit". During the month, special activities, including health screenings, health and wellness information booths, arts and craft displays, etc. will be featured at five of the ENP community centers. The Tobacco Prevention Program and the community Health Representative (CHR) Program are a few of the many organizations which will lend their support at each scheduled event. In addition, a Certificate of Recognition will be presented to the Eldest man and the Eldest Woman in each community.

On May 3, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis proclaimed May as Older Native Americans Month. The kick-off event was held at 10:00 a.m. and was held at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center on May 12, the Holdenville Indian Community will be hosting the event. The Sapulpa Indian Community will be sponsoring their celebration on May 17. In addition, the Muskogee and Koweta Indian Communities will be holding festivities on May 23 and may 31, respectively.

The Office of the Principal Chief, along with the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Health System,

ATTENTION MVSKOKE VETERANS:

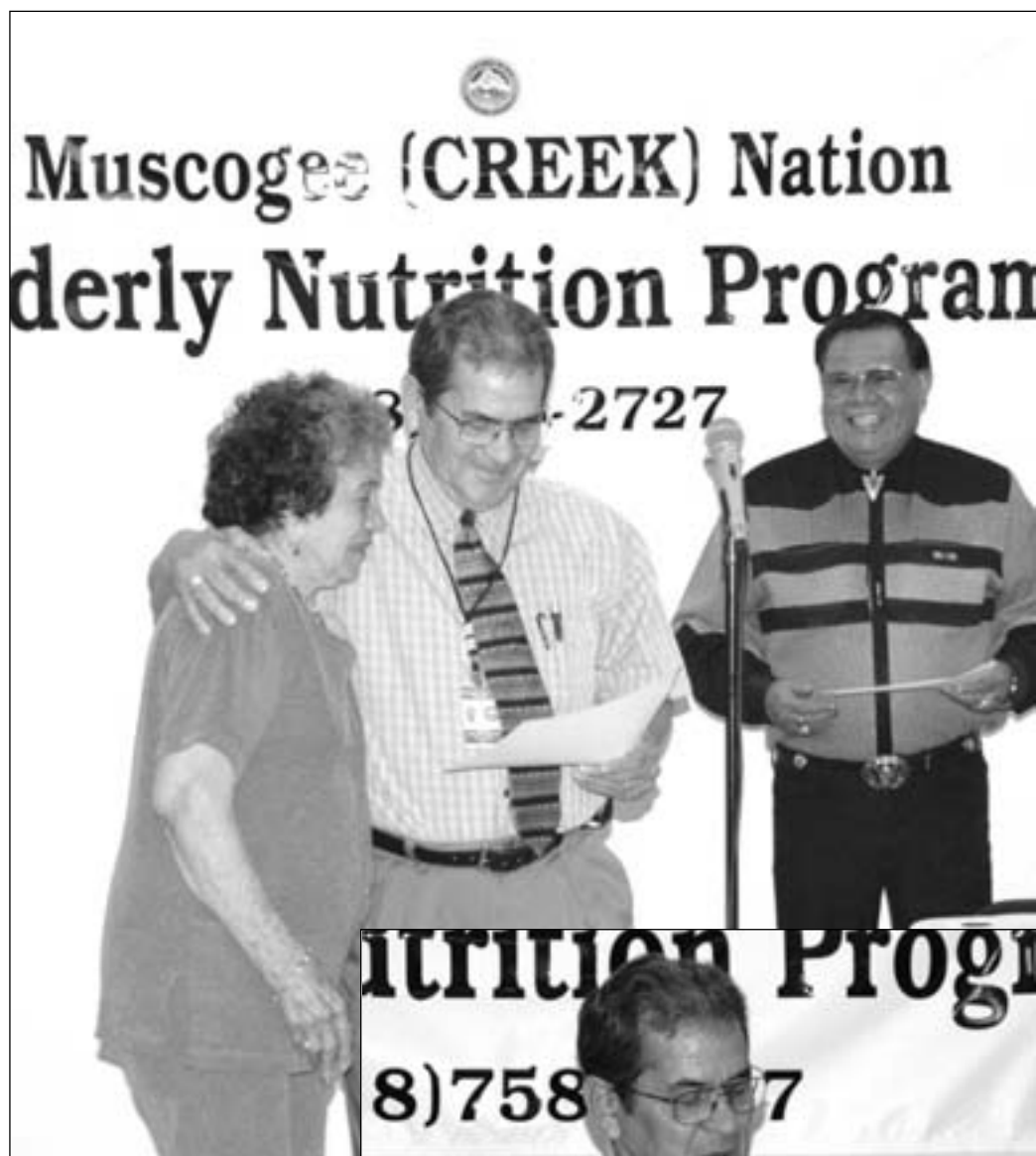
I will be taking about twenty veterans to Branson, Missouri to take part in the Annual "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" celebration in June, 2006. The first meeting last year drew some 28,000 Veterans. This event, as I understand it, will be a yearly thing.

The itinerary is as follows:

- **Wednesday, June 15th**  
Leave Creek Nation at 10:00 a.m.  
Arrive Branson around 4:00 p.m.  
Spend the Night
- **Thursday, June 15th**  
Take part in festivities all day  
Evening – perhaps attend Pow Wow
- **Friday, June 16th**  
Morning 10:00 a.m. – March in Parade  
Approx. 1:00 p.m. – Depart Branson  
Approx. 6:00 p.m. – Arrive Creek Nation

Lodging and meals will be taken care of by the Senior's program.  
Call or come by to sign up. MVTO!  
Jackson Barnett  
Senior Service Manager  
U.S. Navy Veteran  
(918) 732-7723

Creek Elderly Citizens Take Trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico for "Gathering of the Nations" and take a tram to see the Sandia Mountains



Principal Chief presents Lillian Crowe with certificate.

is proud to support the Elderly Nutrition Program in honoring the elders of our Nation's communities. The Senior Services Program of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation is also lending its support in recognizing the contribution of the elders in our lives.

Throughout May, announcements will run on local radio stations and newspaper.

The Muskogee (Creek) Nation Health System and the Office of the Principal Chief encourage everyone to support our most treasured of genera-

tions, our elders, during Older Native Americans Month.

For more information or a list of communities that will host Older Native Americans Month,

the ENP center locations, dates and times, please contact ENP

Coordinator, Lou Jean Fixico at (918) 758-2727 or at (918) 637-6491.

**MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION**

**Festival Info Section C**

**HONORING OUR ORIGINAL ALLOTTEES**

**JUNE 16TH CREEK FESTIVAL 1:30 P.M.**

**LOCATION: OKMULGEE ELDERLY NUTRITION CENTER**

**Everyone Welcome!**

designed & printed by Muskogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department 2004

**wild things**

Primitive is the ultimate seduction. Get the look with tropical brights mixed with woody tones. Reveal your wild side – book an appointment today!

**MERLE NORMAN**

18 Oak St ~ Eufaula, OK 74432  
918.618.4301  
Selina Jayne-Dornan/Owner  
Muscogee (Creek) Citizen

Merle Norman Cosmetic Studios have been independently owned and operated since 1931.

## JAKE WILFRED CLINTON

PRAGUE - Funeral services for Jake Wilfred Clinton were held April 8 at Parks Brother Funeral Chapel with Rev. Mike McCauley officiating.

He was born February 8, 1925 in Bristow to Jake Nexie and Lela Watson Clinton.

Jake was in the U.S. Army during WWII, serving with the 2nd Ranger Battalion on Normandy Beach on D-day. He was awarded three Purple Hearts. Clinton worked as an aircraft mechanic.

He married, Wynema Hill, in

## WILLIAM FLEETWOOD

OKMULGEE - Funeral services for William Issac Fleetwood were held March 8 at the New Beginnings Church of God with Reverend Raymond Doke officiating.

He was born April 12, 1928 to Andrew J. and Lilly Bruner Fleetwood.

Tony was a farmer before he worked as a horse trainer for Baker Dairy for a few years. He loved to play golf, gardening, yard care and playing with his grandchildren.

On August 27, 1949, he married Wanda Henderson in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

In 1986, Tony built Zoe Life Church next to their home, which he pastored for eight years.

Preceding him in death was: his parents; brothers, Fred. L,

Las Vegas in 1953.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; sister, Murdell C. Gump and one half-brother, George W. Clinton.

Survivors include: his wife, of the home; son, Rick Worsham of Meeker; sister, Doretha C. Buckminster of Henryetta; nephew; seven grandchildren; step-mother, Ruby Naylor and Maxie Gump of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Interment was at Gable Cemetery in Prague.

Carl Morris and Roscoe Ernest Fleetwood; and sisters, Nora Bake Combs, Agnes Tuck Fleetwood Moore and Elise Fleetwood Reynolds.

Survivors include: his wife; sons, William Steve of Tulsa and Timothy Fleetwood of Claremore; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sisters, Alice Harper of Tulsa and Betty Jo Bright of Modesto, California; and a host of nephews, nieces, relatives and friends.

Honorary pallbearers were: Mickey, Jimmy, T.J. and Sonny Fleetwood; Frank Moore; Bob Casey and Oscar Brownfield.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the building fund of “New Beginnings” Church of God at 13040 Celia Berryhill Road, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

## BETTY FOX

SAPULPA - Funeral services for Betty Jane Fox were held April 22 at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church with Reverends Phillip Fox and Micah Fox officiating.

She was born October 25, 1926 to Henry and Melissa Tiger Fox. Fox was a nurse aide until retirement, living and working in Tulsa, Sapulpa and Okmulgee.

Betty was a member of Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church.

Preceding her in death was: her parents; a half brother, Matthew Bigpond Fox and an infant sister.

Survivors include: her brother, Herbert Fox and numerous nieces and nephews.

Interment was at Green Hill Cemetery.

## JAMES MCCOSAR

HOLDENVILLE - Funeral services for James Monroe McCosar were held April 20 at Many Spring Indians Baptist Church.

He was born near Holdenville on March 15, 1933 to Ben and Minnie McCosar and was raised in the Little River Community.

James served his country during the Korean War with the Army 45th Infantry Charlie company. He received the National Defense Medal, Korean Service Medal and was awarded a Purple Heart. In combat where James earned his Purple Heart, after being severely wounded and in mortal danger, he carried a wounded fellow to safety.

James joined with his cousins, Corney, Wahoo, Blackie and Frankie Buck to form to Buck Boys and later the Gospel Aires.

## PAUL MCINTOSH

TIGER MOUNTAIN - Funeral services for Paul “Pete” McIntosh were held March 25 at Silver Springs Baptist Church with Reverend Ledtkey McIntosh officiating.

He was born November 28, 1937 in Claremore, Oklahoma.

Paul graduated from Dewar High School. He attended auto body and fender school in Kansas City, Missouri in 1960.

McIntosh worked at a machinist at Oklahoma Steel Castings in Tulsa for 19 years.

Preceding him in death was: his parents, Reverend John D. McIntosh and Velva Richard

They traveled all over the state to revivals and all night singings.

McCosar married Pat Dana in August 1963.

He did landscaping and yard-work for many years in Holdenville. James loved to fish, play and coach softball and spend time with his grandchildren. Pat and him loved to travel to singings, pow-wows and family gatherings.

Preceding him in death was: his wife; brothers, Benjamin Wallace Jr., Wilbur Brimer, Julius Ryan and John Robert McCosar; and sister, Anna Mae McCosar.

Survivors include: his son, John; five grandchildren; sister, Martha Ann Leach of Midwest City; uncle, Lewis McCosar of Holdenville; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews.

McIntosh; brothers, John, Abe and David McIntosh and two infant siblings.

Survivors include: son, Clay McIntosh of Tulsa; three daughters, Joy McIntosh of Denver, Colorado, Jill Green of Tulsa and Chandra Hayes of Bixby; six grandchildren; former wife, Vernia McIntosh of Tulsa; sister, Wyvona Evans of Tiger Mountain; three brothers, Joe of Dewar, Richard of Tiger Mountain and Reverend Ledtkey McIntosh of Atlanta, Georgia; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Interment was at Silver Springs Cemetery.

## MATTHEW MEASHINTUBBY

HOLDENVILLE - Funeral services for Matthew James Meashintubby were held April 27 at Hudson-Phillips Funeral Home Chapel.

He was born March 11, 1962 at Talihina, to Joseph and Nellie Meashintubby.

Matthew was raised in Calvin and graduated from Calvin Schools in 1980. He did lots of odd jobs and the last several years he has been employed at Southern Oklahoma Livestock Auction.

Meashintubby enjoyed watching his nephews play ball, fishing, playing sports and being with his family.

Survivors include: three sis-

ters, Glenda Carpitcher of Konawa, Lynda Simmer and Vicky Pettigrew, both of Ada; three brothers, Robert of Parsons, Kansas, Douglas and Kenneth Meashintubby, both of Ada; one nephew; nine nieces, nephews and numerous other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: John Herrod; Rob Walton; Mitchell Simmer; Steven Tebe; Kenneth Jr. and Harold Meashintubby.

Honorary pallbearers included: Richard Herrod; Doug Owens; Johnny Myers; Kenneth Coody; Wendell Pettigrew; Daniel Simmer; Pete and Dennis Bear.

Interment was at Cedar River Cemetery in Holdenville.

## SOPHIA TARYOLE

HENRYETTA - Funeral services for Sophia Taryole were held April 17 at Shurden Funeral Home Chapel with Wayne Taryole and Thompson Gouge officiating.

She was born September 23, 1917 in Okfuskee County to Taylor Coon and Missalley Johnson Coon.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Van and two half-brothers, Italy and Charley Coon.

Survivors include: daughter, Sally Tiger of Sapulpa; two sons, Sonny of Henryetta and

Kenneth Taryole of Okmulgee; special daughter, Lorena Johnson Roberts; brother, Phillip Coon of Sapulpa; sister, Edna Harrison of Muskogee; seven grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren and four special grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Robert Coffey; Matthew and Jerome Roberts; Robert Fixico; James and Junior Tiger.

Honorary Pallbearers were: Mike Coon; Shayne Hooper and Clarence Tiger.

Interment was at the Taryole Family Cemetery.

Muscogee Nation News

P.O. Box 580

*muscogeenation-nsn.gov*

Check Out The Festival

Information Located In

Section C Of This Issue!

Schumacher Funeral Home

Ron Schumacher is Announcing

Two new additions to our staff with over 80 years of combined experience to better serve you

Bob McLemore and Patty Fletcher

Honoring Muscogee Creek Traditions

130 W. 8th St. Bristow, OK 74010 918.367.2244

1321 W. Columbia Okemah, OK 74859 918.623.1133

Two Locations to serve your needs:

*B.I.A. & Tribal Burial Funds may include a complete Funeral Service*

## Assistance & services available for burial process

### Tribal Programs

The Tribal Burial program is designed to help families of a deceased Creek citizen who do not have adequate resources to cover funeral costs.

The following documentation is required to apply:

(1) Complete application (The responsible party on the burial contract must fill out the application unless an authorized person has permission);

(2) Burial contract from the funeral home;

(3) Creek citizenship card of deceased; and

(4) Social security card.

Tribal burial application must be made within six months of death.

Food for Funeral Program assists families of a deceased Creek citizen with a food voucher for food costs associated with a funeral, memorial, or wake service, or a family dinner.

### Federal Programs

BIA Burial Assistance is an indigent burial assistance program for Native Americans who are enrolled with a federally recognized tribe and reside within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service area. In the absence of other resources, the bureau can provide burial assistance for eligible indigent Native Americans meeting the requirements.

The following documentation is required to apply:

(1) Complete application; (2) Burial contract from the funeral home; (3) Death certificate; (4) Enrollment card; (5) Social security card; and (6) Proof of residence

BIA application must be made within 30 days of death. After application is complete, there is a 30-day waiting period.

For more information on these programs, call Social

Services at (918) 759-2334 or (800) 482-1979.

### Burial Service

*(gravesite preparation)*

Burial service in the form of gravesite preparation is available to Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens. There is no cost to tribal citizens.

In order to have your request received, you must have the following:

(1) Be enrolled with Muscogee (Creek) Nation; (2) Location, Time & Date of gravesite service; and (3) Gravesite be within Creek Nation jurisdiction.

To request this service, call Bob Arrington or Thomasine Long at (918) 732-7650 or 7651.

### JOM announces Challenge Bowl dates

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl 2006 will be held on November 1st for the elementary school division, the 15th for the middle school division, and the 16th for the high school, at the main tribal complex. Creek churches or

communities can now receive rules and study guides. For further information or receiving materials come to the Johnson O’Malley office in the Human Development Building, look on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Web site, or by calling 732-7841.

## Lord’s Prayer

*Pvr-ke Hvl-we lv-kets-kvt,*

*Ce-ho-cef-kvt vcv-ke-kvs*

*Cem-ob-me-ke-tvt, vlv ke-kvs,*

*Ma-mv Hvl-we nv-ke ko-mets-ke*

*Mo-mvt etv-po-met yv-mv ekv-nvn*

*Oh-mo-me-kvs; Net-tv-v-rvh-kv*

*Tvk-la-ken mo-cv net-tvn po-mvs:*

*Wa-kvs, vhue-ra-ce-yvt*

*Es-em-wa-kv-ke-yvt etv-po-men;*

*Nv-ke po-nv-or-ke-pue-ce tv-ye*

*Es-ker-re-tv se-po-hvh-yets-kvs,*

*Mo-maes, hol-wv-kvn*

*Vse-pos-sa-cvs: Oh-mek-ke-tvt, Yek-*

*ce-tvt: Mo-men rvk-ke tvt*

*Ce-nv-ke e-mon-kvt-o-me-kv.*

AMEN

Detailed Information In Section C

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

THIRTY-SECOND

FESTIVAL

ANNUAL

JUNE 15-18, 2006

OKMULGEE, OKLAHOMA

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

RODEO

PARADE

SENIOR CITIZEN ACTIVITIES

SPORTS

5K RUN

PRINCESS PAGEANT

ARTS & CRAFTS

FOOD

TRADITIONAL STOMP DANCE

CREEK HYMNS

CHILDREN ACTIVITIES

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Legal Notices (Continued From Page A2)

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
APPLICANT: MARBET, LLC  
RELIEF SOUGHT: DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS  
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE/4 OF SECTION 3, SW/4 OF SECTION 2 AND THE NE/4 OF SECTION 10, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA.  
CAUSE CD NO. 200602939

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission enter an order establishing drilling and spacing units in the manner hereinafter set forth.  
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief: Applicant requests that the Commission enter an order establishing 160-acre drilling and spacing units for the production of gas from the Calvin, Senora, Earlsboro, Bartlesville, Savannah, Booch, Hartshorne, Upper Gilcrease, Lower Gilcrease, Wapanucka, Union Valley, Cromwell, Woodford, Misener, Hunton, Viola and Wilcox common sources of supply underlying the SE/4 of Section 3, SW/4 of Section 2 and the NE/4 of Section 10, all in Township 7 North, Range 9 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma. Applicant further requests that the order to be entered in this cause be made effective on some date prior to the date of the hearing. Applicant further requests that the order to be entered in this cause be made effective on some date prior to the date of the hearing.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.  
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, First Floor, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m., on the 16th day of May, 2006, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.  
NOTICE IS FURTHER

GIVEN that in the event this cause is uncontested, the Applicant, its Attorney, representatives, witnesses and other proponents of the Applicant may appear and conduct the hearing by telephone from the Tulsa office facility, 440 S. Houston, Suite 114, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127.  
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action contact SCOTT RICHEY, MARBET, LLC, 3316 Woodsboro, Norman, OK 73072, Telephone: (405) 485-9710, and/or Gregory L. Mahaffey, Attorney, 300 N.E. 1st STREET, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104-4004, Telephone: (405) 236-0478.  
CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA  
JEFF CLOUD  
CHAIRMAN  
DENISE A. BODE  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
BOB ANTHONY  
COMMISSIONER  
DONE AND PERFORMED this 18th day of April, 2006.  
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:  
PEGGY MITCHELL  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

PUBLIC NOTICE  
This Notice is posted and/or published in order to permit citizen residents of the Muscogee Creek Nation to examine and appraise the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's 2006 application for funds to the Department of Housing & Urban Development Indian Community Development Block Grant Program, (DHUD-ICDBG).  
The Muscogee Creek Nation is providing this notice to comply with 24 CFR 1003.604 Citizen Participation Requirements. This public notice follows traditional means of citizen resident participation, and involvement. It is being provided to furnish citizen residents with information concerning the amounts of funds available from HUD for proposed community development and the range of activities that may be undertaken under the ICDBG Program for Indian Tribes.  
The amount of funds available, (grant ceilings), in 2006 to applicants per application in the Southern Plains Region of the DHUD is \$800,000. In respect to the range of activities that may be undertaken the follow-

ing applies:  
The purpose of the Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages (ICDBG) is the development of viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low and moderate-incomes as defined in 24 CFR 1003.4 The Office of Native American Programs, (ONAP), in Hud's Office of Public and Indian Housing administers the program.  
Projects funded by the ICDBG Program must meet the primary objective, defined at 24 CFR 1003.2, to principally benefit low and moderate income persons. Consistent with this objective, not less than 70% of the expenditures of each single purpose grant shall be for activities which meet the regulatory criteria at 24 CFR 1003.208 for:  
(1) Area Benefit Activities,  
(2) Limited Clientele Activities,  
(3) Housing Activities and  
(4) Job Creation or Retention Activities.  
ICDBG funds may be used to improve housing stock, provide community facilities, improve infrastructure, and expand job opportunities by supporting the economic development of the communities, especially by non profit tribal organizations or local development corporations. Federally Recognized Indian Tribes are eligible applicants.  
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has prepared an application for submission to DHUD to provide community facilities, the construction of a Community Higher Education Facility. The grant will be used in its entirety for construction costs.  
The Community Development Statement of the application is available for citizen resident review and comment at the Muscogee Creek Nation Planning Department located at hwy 75 and Loop 56 in Okmulgee, Ok, 74447. The Community Development Statement will be available for public review and comment for a two week time period from May 8, 2006 through May 22, 2006, during regular business hours. The CD Statement and a staff person will be available through 7:00 p.m. on May 22, 2006 at the BIA Conference Room in the Headquarters Administration Building at highway 75 Loop 56 Okmulgee, OK 74447, to meet the public meeting portion of the citizen participation requirements. For information call Julie Moss, Tribal Grant Writer at 918-732-7607.  
Citizen residents are invited to review and comment on the Community Development Statement contents of the grant application. Citizen residents are also invited to review and comment on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's performance under any active Community Development Block Grant.

NOTICE  
PROPOSED GRAZING LEASES - RESTRICTED INDIAN LAND  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR - BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
OKMULGEE FIELD OFFICE  
(PROPERTY AVAILABLE TO LEASE)  
Sealed bids will be received until June 17, 2006, 10:00 am CST and opened at that time in the office of the Superintendent, Creek Nation Tribal Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma for the leasing of Restricted Indian land, described herein. The right is reserved to reject any bid and withhold approval of a lease even though submitted as a result of an accepted bid. In the event two or more high bids on a tract are in the same amount, the bidders submitting the tie high bids may be required to draw lots or submit sealed rebids to determine the successful bidder.  
The lessee will be required to furnish with each lease a satisfactory surety bond in the amount that is reasonably assure performance of the contractual obligations under the lease.  
To obtain more information and the proper bid forms, please contact:  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services  
Sonya Lytch, 918-732-7713  
Sabrina Pike, 918-732-7703  
Chris Natseway, 918-732-7709  
or you may write:  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation  
Att: Realty Trust Services  
P.O. Box 580

Okmulgee, OK 74447  
LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:  
Lot 4 of Section 6-T8N-R13E, McIntosh Co., 40 Acres more or less.  
• • • • •  
In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee District  
In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of S.L. G., a Minor  
Case No. G2005-06  
Judge Patrick E. Moore  
SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation  
To: Myia Natrice Cole and Celester Lamont German  
TAKE NOTICE that a petition for Permanent Guardianship has been filed in the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee district, Case No. G2005-06, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of S.L.G. (date of birth: April 18, 2001). The action alleges that the Petitioners are entitled to an Order appointing the Petitioners as Co-Guardians of the Person and Estate of S.L.G.  
You are notified that you must answer the Petition filed by the Petitioners on or before the 10th day of July, 2006, at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, at 10:00a.m. Okmulgee, OK, or the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioners as prayed for in the Petition.  
Given under my hand and seal this 25th day of April, 2006  
Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,  
Okmulgee District  
Marva Proctor, Deputy  
Prepared by: Melia Brooke Arnett  
Student Clinician  
Approved By: Kathleen R. Supernaw, MCN #360  
Lori J. Guevara, MCN #199  
Joseph L. Mrstik, MCN #396  
Attorney for Petitioners  
407 South Florence Avenue  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104-2430  
(918) 631-5799 telephone  
(918) 631-5798 facsimile  
• • • • •  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT  
IN THE MATTER OF: C.D., C.D., A.D., and D.D.  
Deprived Children  
Case No. JV-2003-19  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
TO: Connie Dansby  
YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 8th day of June, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.  
YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.  
YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.  
I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of April, 2006.  
/s/ Patrick E. Moore  
District Court Judge  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration  
P.O. Box 580  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 732-7869  
March District Court filings Continued  
Criminal Misdemeanor:  
• MCN v. James Scott  
Public Intoxication  
Ct. 2 Battery  
• MCN v. Gilbert Conner  
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication  
Divorce  
• Randy Lee July v. Patricia Ravaugh July  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
• Laura Ann Keele v. Donald Lee Keele Jr.  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
Protective Orders:  
• Annette Hill v. Reginald D. Scott  
Ex-Parte  
• Martha Tilley & Trudy Frank

v. Kelly & Donald Adkins Ex-Parte  
• Tamrah Frazier v. Richard Moffitt  
Ex-Parte  
Traffic:  
• MCN v. Shannon Johnson  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. Shannon Johnson  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Melissa Donka  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Damon Morris  
Operating Motor Vehicle while License is Suspended  
• MCN v. James Vernon  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Marleena Rubinsak  
No Valid Drivers license  
• MCN v. Marleena Rubinsak  
No Valid Insurance  
• MCN v. Marleena Ruvinsak  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Christine Shepherd  
Operating Motor Vehicle while Drivers License is Suspended  
• MCN v. Donnie Maltby  
Possession of Illegal Drugs  
• MCN v. Michael Farley  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. Michael Farley  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. James Brashear  
Duty in Event of Accident  
• MCN v. Daniel Gomez  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Ricky Carnell  
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land  
• MCN v. Stewart Booker  
Driving without Required Registration  
• MCN v. Stewart Booker  
Driving Under Suspension  
• MCN v. Amber Cheney  
Open Receptacle  
• MCN v. Kristina Roberts  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. Michael Puckett  
Driving Under Suspension  
• MCN v. Ezequiel Garcia  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Justin Lee Carter  
Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage  
• MCN v. Justin Lee Carter  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Debbie A. McCaskill  
No Drivers License  
• MCN v. Roy Lee Anderson  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Kevin E. Vanzant  
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land  
• MCN v. Billy Thibodeaux Jr.  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Billy Thibodeaux Jr.  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. Anna Maria Little  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. James A. Davis  
No Drivers License  
• MCN v. James A. Davis  
Failure to Comply  
Compulsory Insurance  
• MCN v. Steven Ray Salts  
Driving Under Suspension  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. Steven Ray Salts  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. Jessica Ann Rupe  
Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage  
April District Court filings Civil  
• Security Finance v. Alice Locust  
Small Claims  
• Star Loans of Texas v. Walter Jones  
Small Claims  
• Star Loans of Texas v. Christine King  
Small Claims  
• Star Loans of Texas v. Ruth Bible  
Small Claims  
• Star Loans of Texas v. Barbara West  
Small Claims  
• Lennie Wilcots v. Okemah Casino  
Petition  
• Jesse Gallegos  
Petition for Change of Name  
• Royal Finance v. George Polecat  
Small Claims  
• Christopher Davenport v. Randi Shields  
Petition to Establish Paternity  
• Creditors Recovery Corp. v. Lloyd & Annetta Stidham  
Foreign Judgment  
• Car-Mart v. Theresa Jackson  
Small Claims  
Criminal Felonies:  
• MCN v. Bryan Anderson  
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs  
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia  
Ct. 3: Possession of Illegal Drug  
• MCN v. Anthony Cox  
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs  
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia  
• MCN v. Jack Butler  
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia  
• MCN v. Jerry Reid  
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia  
• MCN v. Daniel Bourassa  
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia  
Criminal Misdemeanor:  
• MCN v. Alexis Perez  
Ct. 1 Public Intoxication  
Ct. 2. Resisting Arrest  
• MCN v. Mary Jane Raney  
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Ronald Cayatineto

Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct  
Divorce:  
• Esther June Fixico v. Jacob Michael Fixico  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
• LaResa Marie Slinker v. Little Chofolope Lindsey  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
• Jerri Renee Renfro v. Kelly Wayne Renfro  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
• Cassandra Harjo v. Pahose Harjo  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
• Robert Joseph Wilson Jr. v. Brenda June Wilson  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
• Jennifer Stanfield v. Carey Stanfield  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
• Lee Frazier v. Franklin Earl Frazier II  
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage  
Family Domestic:  
• Tribal Child Support Enforcement, Ex. Rel., Petition for Determination of Paternity  
Chenoa Green v. John Severs and Establishment of Child Support  
• TCSE, Ex. Rel., Kimberly Coachman v. Petition for Determination of Paternity  
Jeremy A. Factor  
Establishment of Child Support  
Protective Orders:  
• Roxanne Jones v. Marcus Lawrence  
Ex-Parte  
• George Polecat v. Chumona Deere Polecat  
Ex-Parte  
• Roxanne; Marissa & Mahiya Jones v. Marcus Lawrence  
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Traffic:  
• MCN v. Walter Rex Hampton  
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No Drivers License  
• MCN v. Floyd Dale Welch  
No Drivers License  
• MCN v. Tommy Hugh Crow  
No Drivers License  
• MCN v. Gary Wayne Anderson  
Improper Tag  
• MCN v. Lucy M. Linden  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Joe Ben Brown  
Trespass  
• MCN v. Mary Jane Raney  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Gregorio Gaytan  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Timothy Dale Robinson  
Open Receptacle  
• MCN v. Bryan Anderson  
Invalid Drivers License  
• MCN v. Jeffrey Swimmer  
No Drivers License  
• MCN v. Samuel Sidney Lee  
Open Receptacle  
• MCN v. Stephen Jay Walls  
Possession of Illegal Drugs  
• MCN v. Kyle Miller  
Minor in Possession of Alcohol  
• MCN v. Mary Jo Tannehill  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Jose Gustavo Lopez  
Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage  
• MCN v. Deborah Swaim  
Driving without Required Registration  
• MCN v. Sandoval Jimenez  
Invalid Drivers License  
• MCN v. Timothy Rose  
Reckless Driving  
• MCN v. Joshua Phillip Sallee  
Minor in Possession of Alcohol  
• MCN v. Larry Dale Jamison  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Larry Dale Jamison  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Bobby Joe Comfort  
No Insurance  
• MCN v. Bobby Joe Comfort  
Expired Tag  
• MCN v. Joseph Ballard  
Possession of Liquor on Tribal Land  
• MCN v. James Travis  
Driving Under Suspension  
• MCN v. Bruce Thomas  
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land  
• MCN v. Dustin Wadsworth  
Disorderly Conduct  
• MCN v. Sandoval Jimenez  
Invalid Drivers License  
• MCN v. Gerald Gaston  
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land  
• MCN v. Roger Duane Mills Jr.  
Possession of Illegal Drug with Intent to Distribute  
• MCN v. Bethany Rachel Mills  
Driving without Required Registration  
• MCN v. Bethany Rachel Mills  
Driving on Tribal Property with Revoked License  
• MCN v. Amy Lee Shelton  
Possession of Illegal Drug with Intent to Distribute  
• MCN v. Kevin Albert Weeks  
Driving Under Suspension  
• MCN v. Martin Michael Young  
Disorderly Conduct

Letters Continued From Page A2

(BMA 2002) and from the University of Michigan (MM 2004). I am currently working on a dissertation project for my doctorate at the University of Michigan. As well as being a singer, I am deeply interested in furthering the role of the Native American in contemporary classical music. I have, thus, decided to make my dissertation topic center around a very important man from the Muscogee Nation, the poet (and my great, great, great uncle) Alex Posey. I am asking composers who are interested in joining me on my project to write a song, or a set of songs, for female voice and piano based on Posey's texts to be performed on my final dissertation recital. As far as I can tell, nothing like this has been done with any Native American poet in the past. I am hoping to eventually publish the works, with the permission of the composers. Each composer will receive a copy of the performance CD, a chance to be involved in a world premiere performance, and the opportunity to get their music heard in a venue where they might otherwise not. Along with that is the possibility of hopefully getting these works published and archived with the Muscogee Nation. I am very much looking forward to this project, and I hope to have as many talented composers involved as possible. I would be very pleased to have other Muscogee Nation Citizens involved in this project, whether it be as a composer or in some other capacity. Anyone who is interested can contact me at the information below.  
Kirsten C. Kunkle  
419-680-8108  
kkunkle@umich.edu  
535 South Park Avenue  
Fremont, OH 43420  
• • • • •

A Word of Thanks  
I would like to say "Thank You" and acknowledge some individuals for contributing their time and resources toward a community effort. In the smaller communities within the Creek boundaries, our children's educational access and availability to

computers is greatly hampered. The local libraries are usually open weekdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and seldom available on week-ends.  
In September 2005, the Creek Nation offered surplus computers through the GSA department. Many of the computers needed to be refurbished in order to operate properly.  
This is how an educational obstacle was resolved. Chief A.D. Ellis's office was very cooperative in expediting the paperwork to obtain the surplus computers from the GSA department. John West, GSA employee, went out of his way to make sure the components were compatible and in good condition. Wes Clark, the computer repair/networking instructor at Wes Watkins Technology Center did not hesitate to offer his repair services and assist the families in the Wetumka community. To date, nine families with children have received computers.  
Once again, a sincere "Thank You" to Chief A.D. Ellis and his office, John West-GSA Department and Wes Clark at Wes Watkins Technology Center.  
MVTO  
Rev. David Dunson  
• • • • •  
Thank You  
The family of Thomas Charles Minyard wishes to thank everyone who sent cards, food, money, and well-wishes to us during the time of our loss and sadness.  
Thank you to Creek Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs for their support in this endeavor and to anyone who might have said a prayer for our Family.  
So much love and support were given during this difficult time of deep sadness that we cannot begin to thank everyone enough. Just know that our love and prayers go out to all of you.  
Humble appreciation is acknowledged to Brother Ernie Margwarth and the ladies of the Salem Baptist Church for the beautiful service and lovely dinner.  
Jonathan Frank Minyard & the Family of Thomas Charles Minyard



## Jerean Elizabeth Mosquito



Jerean Mosquito

MOUNDS- Jerean celebrated her third birthday on Feb. 11 with a party at her home with family and friends. She also attended the Omniplex museum in Oklahoma City.

She is the daughter of Jacob and Misty Mosquito of Mounds.

Maternal grandparents are Eddie and Beth Shelton of Middletown, Ohio. Paternal grandparents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito of Mounds.

Maternal great grandparents are Dr. Ray and Jean Shelton of Waynesville, Ohio and the late Harold Gallagher and Betty Gallagher-Gragg. Paternal great grandparents are Joe Mosquito of Hectorville and the late Lena Mosquito and Tom and Mary Shirley.

She has one sister, Alexandria.

## Alicia Mae McGirt



Alicia Mae McGirt

EUFULA - Alicia Mae McGirt celebrated her first birthday on April 24.

She is the daughter of Joe McGirt and Taiwana Deere of Eufaula.

Those attending the party were her brothers, Stephen Deere, Anthony, Adam and Joey McGirt and other family and friends.

Maternal grandparents are Debbie Deere of Eufaula and the late Larry Deere Sr. Bertha Lindsey of Shawnee.

Paternal grandmother is Christy Estep of Eufaula.

She is the great granddaughter of the late Berry Mae McGirt of Eufaula.

## Richenda Hicks & Paul Roberts



Paul Roberts & Richenda Hicks

OKEMAH - Paul Roberts of Broken Bow will celebrate his 33rd birthday on June 26.

He is married to April Billy.

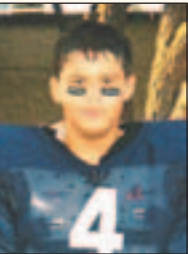
Paul's sister, Richenda Hicks will also celebrate her birthday in June. Richenda will be 32 on June 5.

She is married to Oscar Hicks.

They are the children of James and Kizzie Roberts of Cromwell and the grandchildren of Leefanie Roberts of Tupelo.

## MUSCOGEE PEOPLE

### Chace Hunter Tiger



Chace Tiger

ROUND ROCK, TEXAS — Chace Hunter Tiger is in the seventh grade at Ridgeview Middle School. He participates in all-star baseball, starting quarterback, violinist, and applicant of the Duke University Talent Identification Program.

Chace is an "A" student and was invited based on his academic achievements to apply for the DUKE TIP Program. Only the top 5% of students are invited to apply for the program. Chace took his ACT in Feb. and scored a 19 overall at the age of 13, which is the top 24% of the top 5% who were invited to apply.

Tiger would like to attend a program either at OU or Texas A&M this summer.

He is the son of Chebon Coleman and Carla Tiger of Round Rock, Texas. Maternal grandparents are Mary Girty of Tahlequah and Chuck Girty of Garland, Texas. Paternal grandparents are Marcy Tiger of Lorton, Virginia and T.J. Stand of Tahlequah.

He has two siblings, Chelsey, 10 and Christian, 4.

### Art Under the Oaks names top artists



Scott Roberts

MUSKOGEE — Scott Roberts' entry "Black Drink Set," traditional pottery, received the top honor as Best of Show at an awards reception at Art Under the Oaks Art Show and Sale at Five Civilized Tribes Museum.

"Mvskoke Tradition Dress" by Lillian Thomas was a first-place winner in the textiles division.

Scott Roberts came out the big winner in the knapping division, first and third for "Spud" and "Gar Pipe."

In the pottery/hand built division, second place winner was Scott Roberts "Black Effigy Owl with Rattle in Head."

Art Under the Oaks Art Show and Sale was sponsored by the Muskogee Phoenix.

## BIRTHS

### Anessa Renae & Amaya Nicole Switch



Anessa Renae & Amaya Nicole Switch

OKLAHOMA CITY - Anessa Renae and Amaya Nicole Switch were born Oct. 16 at Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City to Karianne Frye and Jason Switch.

Anessa weighed 2 pounds and 15 ounces and Amaya weighed 3 pounds and 1 ounce and they were both 16 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Johnny Frye Sr. and Marion Bunny Frye of Del City. Paternal grandparents are Genese Switch of Midwest City and the late Willie Switch.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Hepsey Walker Frye. Paternal great grandparents are Lucille Dunson and the late Rev. Earl Dunson.

## Series

Continued From Page B1

in their village three days before and the Pawnee Chief was flying the Spanish flag over his lodge. Captain Pike exchanged a United States flag for the Spanish flag and left the Pawnee Nation traveling south to the Arkansas River.

They arrived on the north bank of the Arkansas River in October where the tiny force split, Lieutenant Wilkinson and five soldiers were to follow the Arkansas River downstream in boats constructed on the river bank out of cottonwood logs. Captain Pike and the rest of the force rode west along the Arkansas River to its headwater. Pike's column was arrested by the Spanish somewhere in the Rocky Mountains and jailed first in Santa Fe and later at Chihuahua, Mexico where they spent considerable time confined.

The Wilkinson party traveling south was forced to abandon their boats due to shallow water. They proceeded on foot and spent the months of November and December in present day Oklahoma. Wilkinson visited the future sites of Claremore and Pawhuska before returning to the river.

The winter of 1806 was particularly severe with ice covering the Arkansas River from bank to bank. Wilkinson's journal on December 3, 1806 contains the following passage "this circumstance placed me in a situation truly distressing, my men are almost naked; tatters which cover them are comfortless and my ammunition is nearly exhausted." Three days later the ice pack broke and the Wilkinson party continued southeast with the river ice.

Lieutenant Wilkinson's small force finally reached Webbers

Falls on Dec. 29, passed the mouth of the Poteau River on Dec. 31 and on New Year's Day 1807 left Oklahoma for the Mississippi.

Wilkinson's journal is the first well-written account of north-eastern Oklahoma. The Lieutenant wrote of passing many Osage villages, also Cherokee, Creek and Choctaw towns inhabited by these early arrivals from Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, he also reported numerous trappers on the Poteau River and streams feeding the Arkansas River.

There would not be another United States expedition into present day Oklahoma until 1811.

In 1805, Louisiana Territory was created by Congress with a territory capital at Saint Louis

and Army General James Wilkinson, the father of explorer Lieutenant James Wilkinson, was named governor.

Then in 1812 Congress changed its mind and created Missouri Territory with territorial control over Oklahoma. The fickle Congress again changed its collective mind and during 1819 present day Arkansas and Oklahoma was organized by Congress into Arkansas Territory.

The Arkansas territorial legislature between 1819 and 1829 organized two counties, Crawford and Miller, in what is now the eastern one third of Oklahoma. This same territory was later removed from Arkansas' territorial control by congressional action and the lands reserved for the Five Civilized Tribes as part of the enticement to get them to move from their ancestral lands in the east to Indian Territory.

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## ACCOMPLISHMENT

### Brandy Coonhead

MUSKOGEE — Brandy Coonhead, a sophomore at Bristow High School entered into a Indian student art show and won third prize. Over 300 works were entered in this contest.

Brandy has the privilege to visit the Tiger Art Gallery.

She is the daughter of Sunny and Juanita Wacohe of Bristow and the granddaughter of the late Mary Coonhead.

### Sheena Michele DePriest



Sheena Michele DePriest

OKMULGEE - Sheena Michele DePriest graduated from Oklahoma State University on May 6 with a degree in Business Administration with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting Finance.

Sheena is the daughter of Michael and Shelly DePriest of Glenpool and the granddaughter of Mitchell and Verda DePriest of Bixby.

Sheena will work with Williams Companies in Tulsa as staff auditor.

### Brittany Precious Dawn Fisher



Brittany Fisher

MUSKOGEE - Brittany Fisher has been chosen as a State Finalist in the 2006 Miss Oklahoma Princess Pageant to be held at the Southern Hills Marriott of Tulsa on June 16-17.

She attends Pre-K at Bradley Elementary. Brittany enjoys going to church, singing and dancing, swimming and camping, shopping, collecting care bears, Barbie dolls and strawberry shortcake stuff, and most of all spending as much time as she can with her family and friends.

She is the daughter of Shanda and Spencer Conner of Drumright and Jason and Leisha Davis of Sand Springs.

Brittany has four brothers and one sister; Joe Horn and Isaiah Conner of Drumright; Austin and Ceirra Davis of Sand Springs; and Jordan Tatershall of Modesto, California.

Fisher is the granddaughter of Mildred Fisher of Oilton and Johnny Fisher of Jennings; Melba and Steve Wethorton of Tulsa and Larry Davis; Spencer

and Trish Conner of Sapulpa; and Willie and Ginny Horn of Tulsa.

She is the great granddaughter of John and Dorthey Fisher of Oilton; James Alverson of Dec Ark, Arkansas; Joann and Melven Davis of Tulsa; and Ed Brown of Tulsa.

### Alexandria Renee Mosquito



Alexandria Renee Mosquito

BROKEN ARROW - Alexandria Mosquito was one of the six students chosen to represent her school in "Circle Around the State with a Song" on Feb. 4. Students are chosen by their music director based on their ability to sing and perform.

She was among 270 students from area schools that performed opera style songs as well as songs in Latin.

Alexandria is in the fourth grade and attends Mounds elementary. She is active in basketball and softball.

She is the daughter of Jacob and Misty Mosquito of Mounds. Alexandria has one sister, Jerean.

## Eufaula Indian Community receive funds for skating rink



Front Row / Seated: Kasey McKenzie, Chief A. D. Ellis, Larry and Karen Armstrong. Second Row / Standing: National Council Representative Tom Pickering, Jimmy Jones, Head of the Eufaula Community, and Secretary Jan McQay.

Photo By Josh Slane

OKMULGEE — On April 14th the Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and the National Council signed a \$700,000 check to the Eufaula Indian Community to purchase and renovate a skating rink for use as their community center building. Renovations to the building include a garage for the community center's vans, a kitchen for the elderly, a fence, and housing for security. The community center has been using the skating rink as their place of meeting for over a year free of charge.

## Don't Forget the Muskogee Creek Nation Festival Next Month. Get all the Details In Section C of This Issue.

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# 4 Love of the Game All-Stars Way Out West for Big Tourney

By Jason Salsman  
MNN Sports Reporter

DENVER – On April 5, three buses carrying Indian All-Stars navigated through the Kansas plains heading for the Rocky Mountains and the 21st Annual Amerind All-West Native American Basketball Classic.

The All-Stars, hand picked from their respective teams from the All-Indian March Madness Tournament, were sponsored by 4 Love of the Game organization. 4 Love of the Game picked up the reins and the check, taking care of the players’ travel, lodging and expenses. In addition to that, the players also were taken on two occasions to get a glimpse of the professional side of sports. They attended a Colorado Rockies Major League Baseball game and closed their trip with a Saturday night visit to the Pepsi Center to watch the Denver Nuggets.

But make no mistake about it, these kids were there for one reason, to win some basketball games and they did just that. Both 4 Love of the Game teams, boys and girls, came out firing and accumulated an overall undefeated combined record of 8-0 after the first two days of pool play. In girls pool play action it was solid guard play that set the tone for the All-Stars as Misty Haley of Oktaha and Sequoyah phenom Angel Goodrich harassed opposing ball-handlers all day long forcing turnover after turnover that led to easy transition buckets. It was a bit of a laughter throughout the entire pool play session for the girls as they never won by less than 20 points and beat one team by more than 50. The boy’s side was a bit more of an adventure. Inside play and tough defense was the key early as sharpshooters T.J. Hooper of Sequoyah and Trevan Jimboy of Latta took a few games to get heated up from the perimeter. When they did, it was smooth sailing. The highlight of the day for the boy’s team was their third game. Squandering a late five point lead, the boys were faced with what could have been their first loss trailing by three with 3.6 seconds to play in regulation. But Trevan Jimboy caught the inbounds pass just in front of the half-court line, weaved through two defenders and got his shot off at the buzzer. He canned the three, and the boys

used the momentum from the heroics to propel them to an overtime victory. Their respective records coming out of pool play earned both squads entry into the tournaments top division, the Gold bracket. The girls drawing the top seed and the boys seeded third.

“There were over 50 teams from many states represented,” said Lucas Taylor, 4 Love of the Game founder and trip coordinator. “For both of our teams to go undefeated in pool play and both make the Gold bracket, speaks volumes about the talents of our kids and the commitment they made.”

The streak, and the weekend, would unfortunately come to an end for the boy’s team as they were eliminated in the tournament’s first game by eventual Gold bracket champion, the Lakota Regulators. The girls team outlasted fellow Oklahoma participants Comanche Nation in their first game but could not overcome the freakishly hot shooting of the Apsalooke Jammerz from Montana in the second round and were eliminated with a third place finish. The teams had nothing to hang their heads about, however, as they came out of a competitive tournament feeling pride after going toe-to-toe with any team put in their path and appreciating the good times they shared. “It was just a bunch of Indians, getting together and playing some ball, we had a blast,” said Vfastv Locust, who played for the boy’s team.

4 Love of the Game was not only represented by Oklahoma but from other states as well. Team members for the girls were; Angel Goodrich (Tahlequah, OK) Shawna Singleterry (Tahlequah, OK) Sade Horsechief (Tahlequah, OK) Kelsi Vass (Paden, OK) Misty Haley (Oktaha, OK) Erin Jent (Vinita, OK) Nikki Lewis (Tahlequah, OK) Vanna Moses (San Carlos, NM) and Allie Dreadfulwater (Grangeville, ID). Team members from the boys team were; Vfastv Locust (Vian, OK) TJ Hooper (Tahlequah, OK) Dallas Morrison (Tahlequah, OK) Zach Goodrich (Tahlequah, OK) Michael Soap (Tahlequah, OK) Trevan Jimboy (Latta, OK) Caleb Boatright (Henryetta, OK) Drexler Tangle (Philadelphia, MS) Jerrod McMillan (Choctaw, MS) and Marvin Battle (New Lima, OK).



## Hot Corner

By Jason Salsman  
MNN Sports Reporter

It’s the May edition of Hot Corner and things are definitely heating up in the sports world. As we inch closer to the dog days of summer, one can only guess that there are a lot of things to keep an eye on in the coming months.

Will Barry Bonds overcome nagging injuries, fan hatred and media scrutiny to become the all-time home run king? My guess is that Aaron’s mark is safe, but unfortunately by the time this paper hits the press Bonds will likely have passed Babe Ruth as number two on the distinguished list. To this writer, that will be a sad day. Barry Bonds is everything that is wrong with baseball. Babe Ruth got his power on the diamond

from booze, steaks and cigars. Bonds got his from the “clear” and the “cream.” While I certainly wouldn’t say that the Babe had the best method, at least he didn’t cheat to get a record and Bonds did. Baseball won’t recognize the accomplishment and that is a good indication of where he has put himself. The few sports fans out there who support Bonds should recognize that and at least be thankful that Aaron’s record should be safe.

In a rather stunning development, pro basketball has actually provided a postseason worth talking about. The NBA playoffs have not been this good since Jordan and Co. were running the show. Teams like Sacramento and Los Angeles have reminded us that this league can get our blood pumping like it used to. That should be something of a wel-

come sight for Commissioner David Stern, who has to recognize the growing disinterest in his association over the last few years. Can you really blame him though? Look at all the great players from those glorious early to mid 90’s who have retired in the last few years. When you see Patrick Ewing on the sidelines coaching, it not only makes you feel old, but reminds you that those guys were great and that’s an awfully hard act to follow. I just don’t know if it can ever be as good as Lakers-Celtics or Bulls-Knicks ever again. We’ll see.

Also, this time of year is also great for us Indian people because the softballs start flying around. I love to play softball, just the overall feeling you get to be out at a tournament or a league game around everyone playing ball, it can’t be replaced. Some of my earliest memories as a kid would be going to watch my Dad play in softball tournaments that would last all night long. I remember the stories he would tell me and my brother about mammoth shots he’d seen or microwaved softballs bouncing back up to you if you dropped them on the ground. We thought him and his teammates were major league stars. See it’s not just that it’s the game

and the competition, that’s a big part of it. But a bigger part is the times you have and the memories you take away from those times. Those out there that play and love to be around the game, know what I’m talking about.

In last month’s Hot Corner I commented on how the Kelvin Sampson move to Indiana was a good one for Oklahoma. Now, Jeff Caple is the head man at OU and while a lot of Sooner faithful are getting on him about the three departed recruits, I think he is the right man for the job. Who’s to say those recruits would not have left any way? Let’s remember, they were five star recruit athletes, and those types don’t stay around when Kelvin Sampson has the reins. Let’s see, Kelvin in all his years at OU only landed two McDonald’s All-Americans, Ryan Humphrey and Drew Lavender. Well, we all know the story. They got in two years at OU, realized the style of play that was implemented and packed their bags for other schools. The real question here is why these recruits did not give Caple a chance. Caple is capable. He has the pedigree and the savvy to get the most out of whoever wants to play for him, and those three would have been no different. Until next time . . .

## Cultural Continued From Page B2

As we clear discarded items, we are always looking for ways to utilize the resources in productive and positive ways. We would be thrilled if a tire company who has the capability of shredding tires would commit to the task and then donate the remnants to an appropriate educational facility for playground usage.”

The mound of abandoned tires on an American Indian site awaiting removal is an image

reminiscent of the powerful 1970’s television commercials that became a compelling symbol of the anti-littering campaign. What beautiful irony for this special commemoration to take place with these tires reminding all of the incredible partnership and commitment between city, state and tribal communities to continue the process of positively transforming this city and great state.

OLD SCHOOL

vs.

NEW SCHOOL

Is The Major League Baseball Season Too Long?

### New school


Absolutely not! How can you get your fill of America’s past-time? When you look back on a season and you are a team I don’t think there can be anything more satisfying than a division title in baseball. That’s because there are 162 games and you have to go through ups and downs, injuries, trades and you have to do that while keeping it all together. Now there are some people that believe that baseball is boring and drawn out too much. That doesn’t bother me at all; it just lets me know that they don’t know the first thing about the greatest game there is.

### Old school

Well, with all the ups and downs of a regular Major League baseball season which goes from April to September, longer for the minors, and for a lot of baseball players it really doesn’t end. Then take into considerations-contract arbitrations, injuries and just about everything else that is involved with Major League Baseball, the season does seem to extend itself quite a bit. But maybe that’s what the nation needs right now, with all the events today that seem to occupy our time today. But the facade of an extended season does seem to make the season look like it goes on forever.

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# MUSCOGEE NATION



# FESTIVAL 2006

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## June 2 & 3 Scholarship Pageant

The festival will kick off with the Miss and Jr. Miss Mvskoke Scholarship Pageant on June 2 at 7 p.m., followed by the Little Miss and Sr. Miss Mvskoke on June 3 starting at 10 a.m. Both pageants will be held at the Henryetta High School Auditorium.

On June 10, the newly crowned Mvskoke Royalty will make their first appearance at a reception held at the Creek Council House Museum beginning at 10 a.m. For more information, contact KoKo Lowe at (918) 732-7649.

## June 9 & 10 Slow pitch Softball

Another fun event of the festival is the Men's, Women's and Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball tournament. This year's tournaments will have their own special weekend. Action starts on Friday, June 9 at 7 p.m. at the Claude Cox Omnplex and will continue on Saturday, June 10 beginning at 8 a.m.

All participants must be from a federally recognized tribe. Balls will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for the top four teams, MVP awards, all tournament team, and Golden glove award. For further information contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639 or Sheila Buckley at (918) 732-7933.



## June 9 & 10 Junior Rodeo

Some of the youngest and best cowboys and cowgirls around are Native American and this year's festival showcases the youth as the Creek Festival hosts the Jr. Rodeo, in conjunction with the Northeast Youth Rodeo Association (NYRA), in the Omnplex. Events begin at 6 p.m. For more information contact Barry Branson at (918) 267-3182.

## June 15 Stomp Dance

To open the full weekend of the 32nd Annual Creek Nation Festival, a Stomp Dance exhibition will be held on the grounds of the Claude Cox Omnplex, in front of the main stage.

Fellowship will begin at 6 p.m., and dancing will continue until 12 a.m. Everyone is invited. For more information contact David Proctor at (918) 756-8504.



## June 15-17 Koweta Clinic Grand Opening

Koweta Health Clinic will have their grand opening Thursday, June 15 in Coweta, OK at 10 a.m. Tribal transit buses will be available for transportation to this event.

The Koweta Health Clinic will be having an open house on Friday and Saturday, June 16 & 17 and everyone is welcome to come by and tour the new facility.

## June 16 Youth Olympics

Indian athletes begin at early age and the Junior Olympics give each one a chance to show their athletic ability. The Junior Olympics will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 16 at Harmon Stadium in Okmulgee.

Competition events at the Olympics include: ages 6-7, 30-meter dash, 50-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 8-9, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 10-11, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and hoop shoot; ages 12-13, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400-meter relay, hoop shoot, and long jump; ages 14-15, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400-meter relay, 1 mile run, hoop shoot, and long jump. For more information, contact Tanya Bardin or Dawn Edwards at (918) 732-7869.



## June 16 Elderly Activities

Muscogee people never forget their elders, and that's no different during the Creek Festival, there's several special events planned just for them. Friday morning, June 16, behind the Housing building, starting at 9 a.m. there will be a quilt show contest with first place receiving \$200, second place receiving \$150, and third place receiving \$100. There will be a jacks contest with sign up starting at 9 a.m. Prizes will be:

first, \$50; second, \$30 and third, \$20. A horseshoes doubles tournament will be played, with registration at 9 a.m. First place will receive \$200, second place will receive \$100, and third place will receive \$50. There will be 18 games of bingo and door prizes. However, a citizenship card is required to claim prizes.



Arts and Crafts welcomed, with set up starting at 8 a.m. and must bring your own tables and chairs.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Speaker of the National Council will be on hand to honor the original allottees starting at 1:30 p.m. For more information please call Donna Martin at (918) 732-7962.

## June 16 Youth Basketball

The youth 3 on 3 basketball will be held Friday night on June 16th at the Claude Cox Omnplex starting at 5 p.m. The entry fee is \$40 and the deadline to enter is June 3rd. The divisions will be 8 - 10 co-



ed, 11 - 14 girls and 11 - 14 boys, and 15 - 18 girls and 15 - 18 boys.

Prizes will be sweatshirts for 1st place, t-shirts for 2nd and 3rd place, and hoodies for the MVP of each division. For more information please contact Celesta Johnson at (800) 219-9458.

## June 16 - 18



## Fast pitch Softball (Men & Women)

Always an exciting sporting event of the festival is the Men and Women's Fast Pitch Softball Tournament. Teams from all over the country will compete. This year's action will start on Friday, June 16 at the Claude Cox Omnplex and the fast pitches will keep on going through Sunday when the top two teams left standing will battle it out to call themselves the "2006 Creek Nation Festival Champions!" The first pitch is thrown at 6 p.m. on Friday, with Saturday and Sunday's action starting at 8 a.m. and continuing throughout the day at the Claude Cox Omnplex.

Deadline to enter this prestigious tournament is June 2. To find out more about each tournament and receive an entry form contact Dean Williams at (918) 732-7790 or Phil Booker at (918) 732-7694.



## June 16-18 Golf

Golfers have a busy festival weekend ahead of them. There is a scramble on June 16 at Fountainhead Golf Course in Eufaula and costs \$50 to enter. Registration ends promptly at 11:30 a.m. and the scramble begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 17, is the qualifying round for the tournament, during which players schedule their own tee time. The tournament starts on June 18, and the top 3 placers in each flight are the winners. Registration for the tournament is open through Saturday and the tournament is Native American only. For more information, contact Bert Robinson at (918) 689-2547.

## June 16 & 17 Gospel Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Gospel Singing will kick off at 7 p.m. on June 16 at the OSU Extension Building. This year's event promises to bring forth that "old time religion" feel with some great southern gospel and contemporary singing that will be entertaining as well as inspirational. Performers tabbed for the event include: The Shipley Family, Felicia Eller, Oscar Higgs, The Kingdom Messengers and LeAnna Grissom. Don't forget to attend this time of refreshing for the



soul. You can experience great fellowship and uplifting music in the same setting. For more information on the Gospel Singing contact Geebon Gouge at (918) 732-7711.

## June 16 & 17 Rodeo

The 32nd Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation All-Indian Rodeo takes place on June 16 and 17 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly at the Rodeo Arena, located at Highway 75 & Loop 56 behind the Travel Plaza. This year's event promises to include the excitement and entertainment that Festival rodeo fans have grown accustomed to. Entry fees will be accepted both nights at 5:30



p.m. Entry fees are \$75 for all events (Team roping \$75 per man and Junior events \$20 entry fee). Call-ins will be taken June 12 from 8 a.m.- 8 p.m. The phone number is (580) 924-8112. Non-association members must purchase a \$15 permit. You must provide tribal enrollment card at time of



entry. There will be a \$10 stock charge, stock provided by Western Ways Rodeo Co. For more Rodeo information, call (918) 732-7650.

## June 16 & 17 Concerts

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Concerts are one of the most anticipated events of the year and this year's entertainment is certain to not disappoint in that regard. Entertainers from many different backgrounds and styles will grace the big stage over the course of two days providing electrifying performances for those in attendance. All concerts will be performed on the main stage at the Claude Cox Omnplex.

Friday, June 16 entertainment will be: Charlie Redd and The Full Flava Kings, 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.; The Boogie Boys, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. and Irene Bedard and Deni Band, 8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. The show closes out on Friday with headliners Lou Gramm & Foreigner from 10:30 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Saturday, June 17, line up includes: Irene Bedard and Deni Band, 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.; Second Chief Alfred Berryhill "Warm Welcome" Scholarship, 4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Living Legends Ceremony, 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address, 5:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Mary Cogan, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.; Rhett Akins, 8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. and Bryan White, 10:30 p.m. - 12 p.m.

## June 16 & 17 Hymn Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be hosting the 3rd Annual Creek Hymn Singing on the campus of OSU-Okmulgee at Covelle Hall on June 16 and 17 lasting from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. on both days. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center on both days. Shuttles to Covelle Hall from the Okmulgee Indian Community Center will be provided and will begin at noon. They will pick up and drop off every hour after departure. This event is a great chance to get in touch with the traditional singing of Creek people and witness one of the dearest facets of the Muscogee culture.



## June 17 Horseshoes

The Horseshoe event this year will be held June 17, starting at 8 a.m. There will be a singles event and a doubles event. Each has a \$15.00 entry fee. Cash prizes to first, second, and third place, and for most ringers in one game (for singles only).

Players need to bring their



## June 17 5k Walk/Run

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 5k Walk/Run will take place on June 17 at Highway 75 and Loop 56 on the Muscogee Nation Complex. Runners and walkers are to



report at 8 a.m. An entry fee of \$15 will be taken up to June 16. The entry fee will be \$20 on Race Day (includes T-shirt). Entry fee without T-shirt will be \$10. Limited number of shirts available. Trophies awarded to Overall Male and Female. Medals to top three finishers in each group. Age groups beginning 12 and under up to 70 and over. Ribbons to first three overall male and female walkers. This event is coordinated by Glen's Racing Service. For more information contact Lila Garrett at (918) 732-7869 or Melinda Taylor at (918) 732-7727. Register by mail: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival 5k Run/Walk, Attn: Lila Garrett, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.



## June 17 Pow-wow

The Creek Nation's Festival's Pow-wow will be held on Saturday, June 17 at the OSU-Okmulgee Softball Field. The Gourd Dance will begin at 2 p.m., supper and registration will be at 5 p.m. A gourd dance will be at 6:30 p.m. Registration closes at 7:30 p.m. and the grand entry, social contests and dancing all begins at 8 p.m.

There are several contests including: Tiny Tots, Junior Boys; Junior Girls; Women's Cloth; Women's Buckskin; Women's Jingle; Women's Fancy Shawl; Men's Straight; Men's Fancy; Men's Grass; Men's Traditional; Golden Age Men (55+); Golden Age Women (55+); Drum Contests (Wireless Microphone will be provided).

For more information, contact Melinda Taylor and Pete Coser at (918) 732-7727.



## June 17 Parade

The Second Annual Creek Nation Parade will be held in downtown Okmulgee. Parade entries must be submitted by Thursday, June 1st by 4:30 p.m. The line up numbers may be picked up at 10:30 a.m. All entries will be expected to be at

the line-up site at 11 a.m. The parade will go from West 6th and Alabama east to Porter Street. All winners will be notified.

## June 17 Adult Basketball

The adult 3 on 3 basketball tournament will be held Saturday, June 17 at the Claude Cox Omnplex starting at 8 a.m. The entry fee is \$40. Prizes will be announced. For more information please contact Craig Mosquito at (918) 756-6473.

## June 17 Child Safety Seat Check-up & Health Fair

The health fair and Child safety seat check-up will be held Saturday, June 17 starting at 9:30 a.m. with many different organizations giving out health and safety information and free goodies.

The Children's Clinic Staff of Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC) will hold a child safety seat check-up clinic from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, at the Tribal Complex. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will check existing child safety seats to insure that they are correctly installed. For children whose existing safety seats have been recalled or are not functioning correctly, there will be a limited number of child safety seats to distribute on a first come, first served basis. Seats are limited to two per family. Parents will need to provide a tribal enrollment card or CDIB for the child. Child must be present to receive seat. For information, contact the Debra or Pam at (918) 758-1926.



## June 17 Living Legends

One great event of the festival is the living legends ceremony. Created by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, the living legends ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have made significant contributions to the tribe. The ceremony takes place on Saturday afternoon, June 17, at the Omnplex main stage. National Council Speaker George Tiger and Native American actress Irene Bedard will emcee this year's event. Applications are still being accepted for this prestigious honor until May 25. For more information, contact Rachel Sumka at (918) 732-7604.


## June 17 Arts Festival

The 2006 Creek Council House Indian Art Festival has become a part of the scheduled festivities and will take place on



Saturday, June 17 on the historic grounds of the Creek Council Museum. The Council House is located in downtown Okmulgee. Native American artists from all over the country will showcase their art in the formats of paint, sculpture, pottery, jewelry and metal. Juried art, children's events, food vendors as well as the Native Praise choir will entertain the audience. Events begin at 10 a.m. along with a Creek traditional fashion show to begin at 10:30 a.m. The art festival is held in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the arts. For more information, call (918) 732-2324.







# \$250,000

# American



# Dream





**Enter Daily Now Through July 25**

**\$2,000 Weekly Drawings every Tuesday at 6 pm**

The life changing promotion from last year that everyone's still talking about is back to make someone's dream come true. Join us at Creek Nation Casino – Tulsa for the American Dream when one lucky person will win a brand new home in south Tulsa, a 2006 Hummer H3, and \$10,000 in cash!



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Creek Nation Casino supports responsible gaming. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700. This facility is regulated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Public Gaming.



# JUNE 9-10, 15-18 OKMULGEE, OK

CONTACT COORDINATOR FOR EACH EVENT

**June 2nd & 3rd**

Scholarship Pageant  
Virginia Thomas 732-7939

Slowpitch Softball - Mallory Bible (918) 732-7639

**June 9th & 10th**

Slow Pitch Softball Tournament -Victor Bear (918) 261-2315

Junior Rodeo

**June 15th**

Stomp Dance - David Proctor - (918) 756-8504

**June 16th**

Youth Olympics - Tanya Bardin & Dawn Edwards (918) 732-7869

**June 16th - 18th**

Parade - Irene Culley (918) 756-9911, Ext. 334

Fastpitch Softball (Men & Women) - Dean Williams (918) 732-7790

Volleyball - Christine Denny (918) 296-3331

Basketball (Youth & Adult) - Craig Mosquito - (918) 756-6473

Horseshoes - Larry Soweka (918) 756-8504

Pow-wow - Dr. Cosar (918) 732-7727

Rodeo - Bob Arrington (918) 732-7650

Arts & Crafts - Melinda Taylor (918) 732-7727

Gospel Singing - Geebon Gouge (918) 732-7711

Creek Hymn Singing - Michael Coone

Senior Activities - Donna Martin (918) 732-7962

Golf Tournament - Bert Robinson (918) 689-2547

5-K Run - Lila Garrett (918) 732-7869

Art Contest/Fashion Show - Ted Isham (918) 756-2324

Musical Entertainment

Tulsa Casino & Salina Dornan (918) 732-7613

Vendors (Food) - Melissa Ambler (918) 732-7935

## DOWNTOWN OKMULGEE

**CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM**



**JUNIOR OLYMPICS**  
FRI JUNE 16, 8:30AM  
**HARMON STADIUM**



**COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM**  
**106 W. 6th ST**  
**PAGEANT RECEPTION**  
SAT JUNE 10, 10AM  
**ART CONTEST**  
SAT JUNE 17, 10AM  
**PARADE**  
SAT JUNE 17, 12:30PM  
**DOWNTOWN OKMULGEE**

WOOD DR.

WOOD DR. (HWY 75)

US HWY 75

### OTHER FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

**PAGEANTS**

MISS & JUNIOR MISS  
FRI JUNE 2, 7PM

LITTLE MISS & SENIOR MISS  
SAT JUNE 3, 10AM

**HENRYETTA HIGH SCHOOL**  
**HENRYETTA, OK**

**KOWETA CLINIC GRAND OPENING**

THURS JUNE 15, 10AM  
31870 E. HIGHWAY 51

**COWETA, OK**

**GOLF**

FRI & SAT JUNE 16 & 17, 8 AM  
**FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF COURSE**



**CREEK HYMN SINGING**  
FRI & SAT JUNE 16-17, 1-6PM  
**COVELLE HALL**  
**OSU-OKMULGEE**

MISSION ST.

OSU - OKMULGEE CAMPUS

4th ST.



**POW WOW**  
SAT JUNE 17, STARTS 2PM  
**OSU-OKMULGEE**  
**SOFTBALL FIELD**

CREEK COMPLEX 2 MI. >

### LIVING LEGENDS & STATE OF THE NATION

SAT JUNE 17th **OMNIPLEX**

4:00PM - 4:30PM "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" Scholarship  
4:30PM - 5:30PM Living legends Awards  
5:30PM - 6:00PM Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address



### GOSPEL EXPO

FRI JUNE 16, 7:00PM  
SPECIAL SINGING  
**OSU EXTENSION BUILDING**  
ONE HALF MI. WEST  
OF OMNIPLEX



### OMNIPLEX



**SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL**- FRI & SAT JUNE 9-10, 7 PM

**CHILDREN ACTIVITIES**- SAT JUNE 10, 10AM

**STOMP DANCE**- THURS JUNE 15, 6PM-12

**MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FASTPITCH SOFTBALL**-  
FRI-SUN JUNE 16-18, STARTS 7PM FRI

**VOLLEYBALL**- SAT JUNE 17, 9AM

**3 ON 3 YOUTH BASKETBALL**- FRI JUNE 16, 5PM

**3 ON 3 ADULT BASKETBALL**- SAT JUNE 17, 8AM

**HORSESHOES**- SAT JUNE 17, 8:00AM

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**- FRI 4:30PM-12, SAT 3PM-12



### MCN RODEO ARENA

**JR. RODEO**- SAT & SUN JUNE 10-11  
**SR. RODEO**- FRI & SAT JUNE 16-17  
7 PM NIGHTLY  
**SLACK SATURDAY** 17th 10AM

CREEK TRAVEL PLAZA

MEMORIAL PLAZA



### CREEK MOUND BUILDING

MCN COMPLEX

HOUSING BUILDING

VUUTVKE EN NENE



BEST WESTERN IBIK >

HWY 56

MARTHA BERRYHILL AVE

NOKUSVULKE - BEAR

ECOVULKE - DEER

FUSVULKE BIRD

CUIVULKE - FOX

LYMHVULKE - EAGLE

WOTKVULKE - RACCOON

KATCVULKE - PANTHER

YAHVULKE - WOLF

PENWULKE

HVLPVULKE - ALLIGATOR



POLOKSE CIRCLE



**ELDERLY ACTIVITIES**  
FRI JUNE 16, 9AM  
**ELDERLY NUTRITION BUILDING**



**5K RUN**  
SAT JUNE 17, 8 AM  
**MCN COMPLEX**

